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# CHISANA

## HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

WRANGELL-SAINT ELIAS N.P. & P.





## HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

THE U.S. COMMISSIONER'S COURT,  
THE U.S. COMMISSIONER'S RESIDENCE, AND THE WOMEN'S JAIL  
CHISANA HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS NATIONAL PARK & PRESERVE  
ALASKA

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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA



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## INTRODUCTION

This report was prepared to meet the immediate needs of a new developing park and to stabilize and restore significant cultural resources. Existing condition drawings prepared to Historic American Buildings Survey standards and Emergency Stabilization Treatment drawings have been prepared for three historic structures in the Historic Chisana Townsite. These three structures are identified as the U.S. Commissioner's Court, U.S. Commissioner's Residence and the Women's Jail. Due to the simplicity of these structures the work presented in this report should be sufficient to meet management obligations and goals while providing a data base for initiating treatment.

The U.S. Commissioner's Court, U.S. Commissioner's Residence and Women's Jail are the most significant structures within the proposed Chisana historic district. Built during Chisana's peak years, ca. 1913-1920, the structures represent the simplest architectural form found in the mining boom camps of Alaska's gold rush era. They also represent the introduction of law and order into the Alaskan frontier. After the withdrawal of the U.S. Commissioner in 1930 the buildings became part of the Lou Anderton (later Pioneer Outfitters) guide and hunting service operation until c. 1969. The log structures have fallen into disrepair since then.

The proposed Chisana historic district includes the former Chisana townsite structures on public domain. Several historic structures stand on the McNutt homestead, the eastern portion of the original townsite, and may be included, with owner consent, on the National Register of Historic Places nomination. Other structures on the public domain in the proposed district have conflicting ownership claims, which need resolution.

Inventory and recordation of structures in Chisana occurred during the summers of 1982 and 1983 as part of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, Historic Resource Study.

This report was originally prepared as an emergency stabilization report but several things came to light during its initial review. First of all, it is not the goal of this division to further complicate the process of treating historic structures, nor to create a new document. With this in mind the report was modified to meet N.P.S. 28 Guidelines for Historic Structure Reports. This report now contains all the components of a Historic Structure Report.

Though stabilization sounds appropriate when speaking of rehabilitating an historic log structure, restoration cannot help but be performed. The structural aspects of log structures are performing the dual role of holding the building up as well as protecting it from the weather. In this vein, it is extremely difficult to separate stabilization treatments from restoration treatments; they become one in the same. Both terms may be applied to similar treatments.

A slight departure from conventional Historic Structure Reports will be found in the recommended treatment drawings. Due to the simplicity of these structures, the treatment drawing will be developed in sufficient detail, when coupled with the materials list, to carry out the actual work. This will save significant time and funds that would normally be used in developing a separate package of Working Drawings and Specifications, as these are contained in this report.

Another departure from conventional Historic Structure Reports is the use of Historic American Building Survey drawings in place of existing condition drawings. Since both types of drawings record essentially the same information it saves time and funds to utilize the H.A.B.S. format for the H.S.R. and still have a H.A.B.S. record archived in Washington, D. C.



# I. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA



## I. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA SECTION

The three structures researched in this report are located in the historic townsite of Chisana. These structures comprise three out of twenty which are still extant. Chisana sits between the north bank of Chathenda or Johnson Creek, and the south side of Chisana Airfield. Nabesna A-3 T.3 N., R.18 E., Secs: 1 and 2, (sec. 2) S/E, S/E, S/E, (Sec. 1) S/W, SW, Copper River Meridian. The following are individual building locations:

Women's Jail: North west corner of Chisana Historic District approximately 70' north of U.S. Commissioner's Courthouse. Nabesna A-3R. 18 E. T 3 N. Sec. 2, S/E, S/E, Copper River Meridian.

U.S. Commissioner's Courthouse: Western end of Chisana approximately 30' east of U.S. Commissioner's residence. Nabesna A-3R. 18 E., T. 3 N., Sec. 2, S/E, S/E, Copper River Meridian.

U.S. Commissioner's Residence: At the western extreme of Chisana, 30' west of the U.S. Commissioner's Courthouse. Nabesna A3R. 18 E., T. 3N., Sec. 2, S/E, S/E, Copper River Meridian.

These three structures fall into management category B according to N.P.S. 28 Cultural Resource Management Guidelines. This category states that management should preserve and maintain structures in categories of significance 2a and 2b, as described in "Management Policies" (Chapter 5, pp. 3-4). Structures must meet all of the following criteria to be classified category B:

A. The structure meets National Register criteria individually or as part of a network, district, or multiple resource.

B. The structure is not incompatible with a primary park theme.

C. The structure has a continuing or potential use benefiting the park or a leased operation, based upon design, condition, location and use.

The historic structures in Chisana will be listed on the "List of Classified Structures" as of August, 1984.

Planning documents proposing treatments and use are the Parks Resource Management Plan and the General Management Plan.

Treatments proposed in this report are "Restoration" treatments according to N.P.S. Management Policies, Section V, page 13. These treatments involve the process of recovering the general historic appearance of a structure by the removal of incompatible natural or human-caused accretions and the replacement of missing elements as appropriate. Restoration of exteriors and interiors may be partial or complete.

The structures will be used adaptively as ranger shelters and warehouses. The analysis contained in this report will present recommendations for individual use based on architectural suitability of each structure.

This division has been developed with full concurrence of the Park Superintendent and reflect his views on what the structures will be used for. Further consultation with the Superintendent is expected during design development of use options.

## A. Historical Data



## II. PHYSICAL HISTORY AND ANALYSIS SECTION

### A. HISTORICAL DATA SECTION

#### 1. HISTORY

According to the reminiscence of old timers and the present residents of Chisana, the three log structures herein described were built during the Chisana gold rush (ca. 1913-1914) and were used as the U.S. Commissioner's Residence, U.S. Commissioner's Court and Women's Jail. Some residents associate the structure with Anthony J. "Tony" Dimond, first commissioner in Chisana and, later, Alaska's sole delegate to Congress, 1933 to 1944.<sup>1</sup> Research has yet to prove this association--the early records of the town (1913-1940) were destroyed by fire, historic photographs are lacking for this area of the town, and information from contemporary newspapers scanned thus far is inconclusive.

#### The Chisana Strike:

During the spring of 1913 two veteran prospectors, Billy James and Nels Nelson, crossed from the White River drainage into the headwaters of the Chisana River. At the mouth of what would become Bonanza Creek they discovered gold. Nelson returned to Dawson for supplies and let out the word, which quickly spread to other Alaska-Yukon camps. By summer, idle miners and merchants turned their attention to the new diggings. The Chisana stampede had begun.<sup>2</sup>

An estimated 5000 stampeders headed for the diggings from Fairbanks, Nome, the coastal towns and even Seattle that summer of 1913.<sup>3</sup> Prospectors staked creeks and hills for ten miles around Bonanza Creek, while two groups of merchants established townsites, one at the mouth of Bonanza Creek called Bonanza City and one down Chathenda Creek, a mile from Chisana River, called first Chathenda City, then Chisana with the establishment of a post office September 30, 1913.<sup>4</sup>

Town building at Chisana followed the same pattern as other Alaska Gold rush era cities -- Circle and Eagle, Rampart and Fairbanks, Iditarod and Ruby. First, merchants staked a townsite, built stores and shops, and then, among other things, called for legal protection and property rights. In late summer a U.S. Commissioner and a deputy marshal were appointed for the new mining district.

#### The U.S. Commissioner:

Tony Dimond, one time prospector and, more recently, a Valdez lawyer, was appointed by U.S. District Judge Robert Jennings as Chisana's first commissioner.<sup>5</sup> His duty would be to insure proper recording of mining claims and other land claims, the adjudication of local cases, and the multitudeness trivial duties of a first rung government official. Fred

Hoffman was appointed deputy marshall. Both men would receive small salaries plus fees for cases tried and heard, records processed, and duties given--both positions held the potential for wealth as well as fraud as exemplified by the earlier Nome mine claims scandals. Neither fraud nor wealth would occur at Chisana.<sup>6</sup>

Tony Dimond arrived in November. By January, 1914 he was hearing cases in the Chisana court; unfortunately no specific association has been made between the standing structures at Chisana and Dimond's tenure. A two story court house was reported completed January 1914 as well as 350 to 400 other log cabins, log hotels, log stores, and other log buildings.<sup>7</sup> Though the two story courthouse no longer stands, the present structure reflects building construction of Chisana of the period as seen in 1913-1914 photographs. The jail and residence align with the 1913 street grid. Old timers in Chisana refer to the buildings as The Commissioner's residence (or Tony Dimond cabin), the Commissioner's court, and the women's jail.<sup>8</sup>

No description of log structures at Chisana remain, yet the log structures of nearby Fortymile have been described and reflect the style at Chisana. In 1913, William Ogilvie published his description:

"The miner's cabin was always [built of] what he could find adjacent to the site he chose, and as the prevailing timber of the region is spruce and poplar, the walls and roof consisted of logs of those trees, of such size and length as the party of one or more who were to house themselves in it could conveniently handle. The roof consisted of small poles laid from ridge-pole to the wall on either side; on this series of beams, as they might be termed, was put a layer of the moss found so abundantly in the country, of a depth of about a foot; on this was placed about an equal thickness of the clay of the place. This made a close, warm roof, and in summer-time, unless the rain fell unusually heavy, it was dry too.

After the size of the building has been decided on, a space somewhat larger in extent was cleared of the surface moss, leaves, and sticks; on this the two first logs were laid parallel to each other, the ends saddled to received the notched ends of the next pair of logs to be laid on the saddles prepared for them. The ends of the last pair were then saddled as with the first pair, and so on, till the height of the walls was reached. On the ends of the building walls sloped logs were laid, and fastened to those below them by wedges or pins, as proved most convenient to the builder; on the apex of this slope was laid the ridge-beam or beams, there being sometimes two, the height of which above the side-walls determined the slope of the roof. In the walls, as they rose, were left openings for the door and window, or windows, which were dressed to measure, and squared after the walls were finished. The door was made of slabs; it might be split from suitable



logs, or, if possible, whip-sawed from the same. Very often the door was mounted on wooden pin-hinges, made on the spot, as household hardware was not much dealt in in the earlier years of the territorial settlements.

The walls, door, and windows finished, the spaces between the logs, and every other space visible, was chinked, or stuffed, with moss, driven in tight by suitably shaped sticks."<sup>9</sup>

The Chisana Commissioner's residence has a burm around the sill logs. This kept out the winter cold. The buildings also have ornamental details, diamond shape log decorative touches, attached log shelves, and pin connectors for door hinges (see physical description section). The extended porch and window details can be seen in contemporary log buildings (see historic photographs).

#### Chisana's Decline:

The extent of the placer deposits proved limited to only Bonanza Creek and Glacier Creek and their short tributaries. The population thus declined from a reported 500 in 1914 to a total of 175 in the entire

Chisana River drainage in 1920.<sup>10</sup> Business declined consequently and the town's cabins were abandoned or, for most, burned for firewood. Chathenda Creek eroded its bank, taking other cabins.

The Commissioner's fees proved far less than Tony Dimond had hoped for and in July 1914 he quit the position and left the district. Chisana was the beginning of his distinguished career as mayor of Valdez (10 years), Alaska's sole delegate to Congress (11 years) and U.S. District Judge (9 years). His first replacement never appeared in Chisana and the second stayed less time than Dimond.<sup>11</sup> In 1915, Anthony McGettigan, who worked for Dimond as recorder, was appointed U.S. Commissioner. He was replaced in 1920 with the national change in politics and Aaron E. Nelson became Chisana's last commissioner (1920-1930).<sup>11</sup> McGettigan remained in the area as miner and was postmaster until 1937.<sup>12</sup>

By the 1930's the population of Chisana consisted of a handful of prospectors and merchant Charles A. Simons. Chisana's role as diminutive trading center passed with the 1939 transfer of the post office to Nabesna, a mining camp forty miles to the west.<sup>13</sup>

#### Hunting and Guiding:

Though hunting guides had been in the Chisana area before the rush, the town became a stop for parties hunting the Wrangells during the 1910s and 1920s. Following World War II and the advent of fly-in hunts, activity in the Chisana area increased. Lou Anderton, a guide in the area since 1925, operated a general store and guiding service from buildings on the western portion of the townsite. He built a corral on

the former First Avenue and his Pioneer Outfitters used the former First Avenue business buildings as a lodge. During the 1960s new plank roofs were placed on the commissioner's residence and court. An addition was attached to the west wall of the Commissioner's court.<sup>14</sup>

Anderton died ca. 1962; his Pioneer Outfitters was continued in operation by the Overly family. In ca. 1969 they moved a mile west nearer the Chisana River, in a more isolated setting, acquiring a homestead at that local. In 1980 the historic townsite of Chisana (except for the portion included in Ray McNutt's homestead) became a part of Wrangell-St. Elias National park and Preserve.

- 1) Oral Interviews, Neil Finnesand, Chitna, August 1983; Ivan Thorall, Chisana, July 1982, June 1983; Terry Overly, Chisana, June 1983; Ray McNutt, Chisana, July 1982, June 1983.
- 2) Terrane M. Cole, "Historic Use of the Chisana and Nabesna Rivers, Alaska", State Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, May 1979; Stephen R. Capps, The Chisana - White River District USGS Bulletin 630 (Washington, D. C.:GPO, 1916) pp. 25-27.
- 3) Cole, "Historic Use of the Chisana," pp. 10-13.
- 4) Melvin B. Ricks, Alaska's Postmasters and Postoffices 1867-1963 (Ketchikan, Alaska: Tongass Publishing Co., 1965), pp. 11-12.
- 5) Nome Daily News, November 4, 1913; Cordova Daily Alaskan, September 18, 1913.
- 6) Ernest Gruening, The State of Alaska (New York: Random House, 1954) pp.342-343; Morgan Sherwood, Big Game in Alaska, A History of Wildlife and People (New Have, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 1981), pp. 45-46.
- 7) Ibid.; Cordova Daily Alaskan, October 6, 1913.
- 8) See footnote 1; Melody Webb Grauman field notes, September 8, 9, 1978, copies in National Park Service files, Anchorage, Alaska.
- 9) William Ogilvie, Early Days on the Yukon (London: J. Lane, 1913) pp. 299-301.
- 10) Alden M. Rollins, compiler, Census of Alaska: Number of Inhabitants, 1792-1970 (Anchorage: University of Alaska, 1978), pp. 1920-4.
- 11) Mary Childers Mangusso, "Tony Dimond," Alaska Journal Autumn 1982, pp. 11-23.
- 12) Ricks, op.cit.,p.12.
- 13) Cole, "Historic Use of the Chisana," pp. 18-20.
- 14) Ray McNutt, Chisana, June 1983; Elizabeth Hickathier, June 1983.

## 2. HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

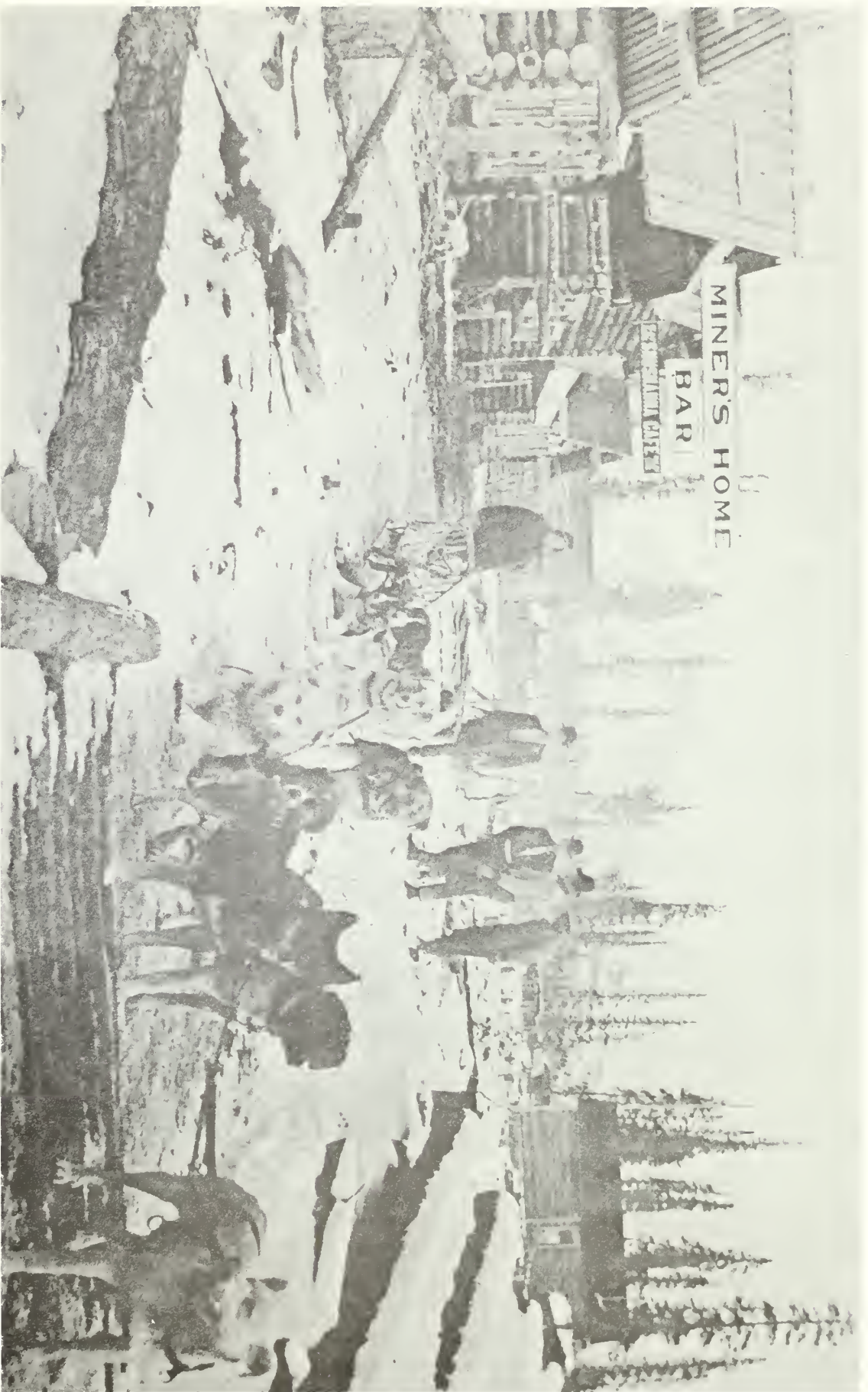
First Avenue looking east, Chisana (Shushanna) early 1914. All buildings in original townsite were log construction. Miner's Home Bar and Shushanna Cafe burned ca. 1960s. Courtesy L. Zacharias Collection, Alaska Historical Library.

"Gambling house, Shushanna, Alaska". ca. 1914. Note peg work detail and roof detail. Courtesy L. Zacharias Collection, Alaska Historical Library.

"City Jail, Shushanna, Alaska" Probably men's jail ca. 1914, between women's jail and commissioner's court. No longer stands. Courtesy L. Zacharias Collection, Alaska Historical Library.

Zacharias residence, Chisana ca. 1914. Note roof details and peg work. Courtesy L. Zacharias Collection, Alaska Historical Library.

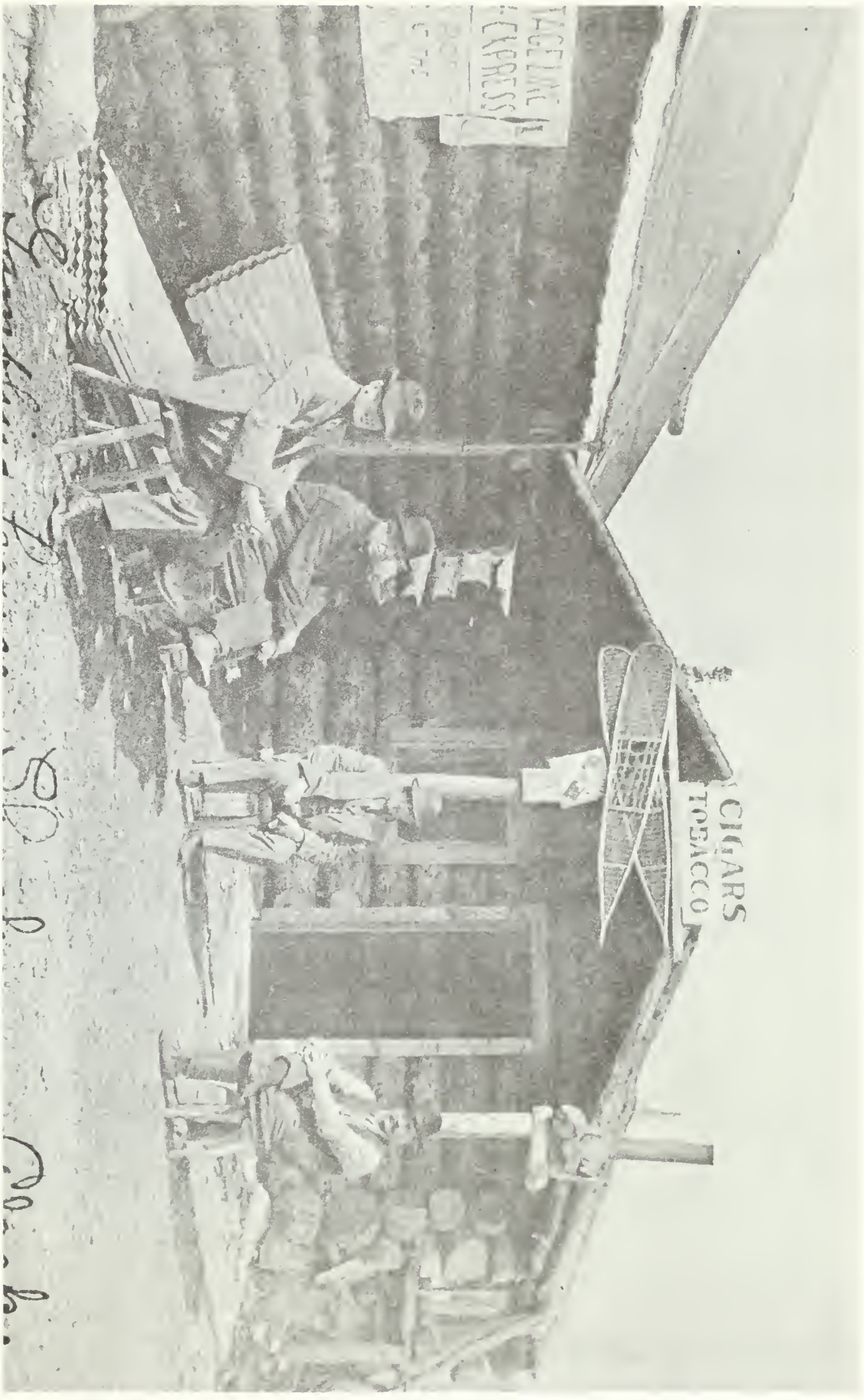




First Avenue looking east, Chisana (Shushanna) early 1914. All buildings in original townsite were log construction. Miner's Home Bar and Shushanna Cafe burned ca 1960s. Courtesy L. Zacharias Collection, Alaska Historical Library.



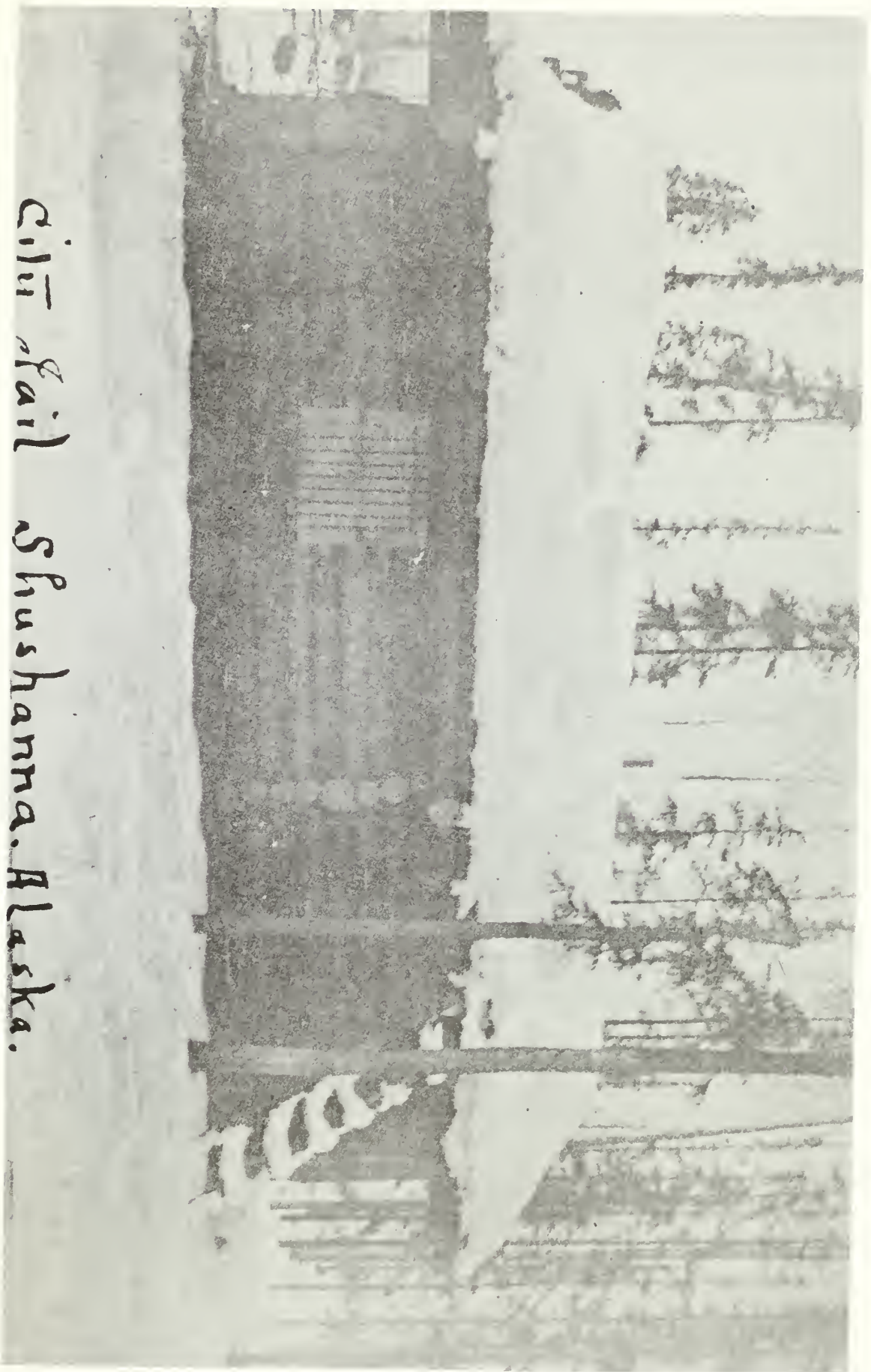




"Gambling house, Shushanna, Alaska". ca 1914. Note peg work detail and roof detail. Courtesy L. Zacharais Collection, Alaska Historical Library.





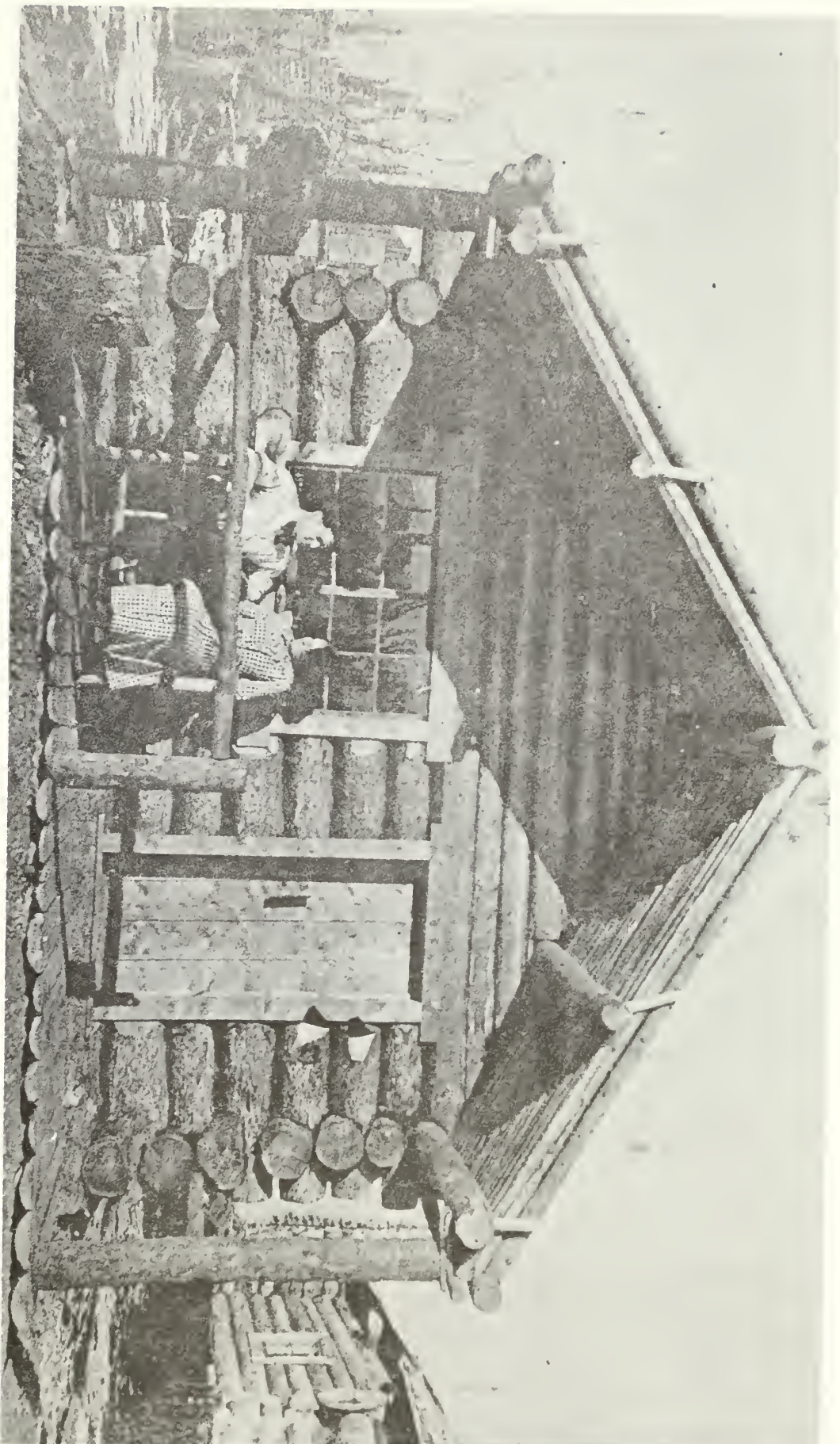


*City Jail Shushanna. Alaska.*

"City Jail, Shushanna, Alaska" Probably men's jail ca. 1914, between women's jail and commissioner's court. No longer stands. Courtesy L. Zacharias Collection, Alaska Historical Library.







Zacharias residence, Chisana ca. 1914. Note roof details and peg work.  
Courtesy L. Zacharias Collection, Alaska Historical Library.



## B. Architectural Data



## B. ARCHITECTURAL DATA

### 1. EXISTING CONDITIONS

This section will include a verbal and graphic description of the surfaces and foundations of all three buildings. Investigations were through visual observations with no physical alteration or removal of layers.

The buildings being described will include: 1) The Women's Jail, 2) the U.S. Commissioner's Court, and 3) the U.S. Commissioner's Residence. These buildings represent the three main structures remaining in the northwest quadrant of the Old Chisana Town site.

At this time no stabilization or other emergency measures have been taken to insure the preservation of these buildings. For further documentation of these structures refer to the included photographs.

#### a. Women's Jail

A one story, one room, saddle-notched log cabin. Gables at the east and west ends, with the entry on the east end. The porch on the east end has a small storage room made from 1 inch random width planks.

##### 1) Roof

Originally it was a sod roof on 3-4 inch split log ceiling planks. A board and batten roof was placed over the sod at one time but has deteriorated almost completely. Exposed roofing members have deteriorated and show considerable decay. From underneath the ceiling members appear to be in good condition. One section on the south side has collapsed due to rotted wood and snow loads. The condition and extent of decay on each of the roofing members needs to be determined at the time of treatment. All ceiling planks over the porch are very decayed.

The super structure of the roof ridge beam and plate logs appear to be in good condition with little deterioration. Butting poles on both eaves are rotted and missing in places.

##### 2) Walls, Doors and Windows

All of the log walls above grade are in good structural shape. Some of the chinking is missing causing several cracks and holes in all sides. Two holes high up on the west wall - one apparently a vent (filled at present with a wad of cloth), the other caused by a missing section of log. Logs are unpeeled, 8 1/2-12 inches in diameter and hewn flat on the inside.

Porch storage room walls heavily weathered. No treatment visible. Support posts are loose and showing signs of weathering.



The windows on north and south sides are in good condition. Trim and frames are intact and still tight. Glazing on south windows is broken with pieces missing. Slight racking of the frame may have caused breakage. The window was apparently built with the glass in place and then installed (the glass is fitted into saw kerfs on all four sides of the frame). The shelving system around the south window is in excellent condition.

The window on the west end appears to have been a later addition. It is a different style from the north and south windows and is potentially large enough to crawl out of (not very efficient in a jail). The frame is loose, all boards are weathered and the stops are missing as is the glazing. The shelf above the window is in good shape.

The entry door on the east end of the cabin is loose on its hinges. The hinges (stamped metal) are rusted. The surface mounted lock set is broken and what appears to have been a dead bolt is missing. A patterned fabric covers the lower part of the inside of the door and is deteriorating. A window in the upper part of the door has one broken pane. The glass looks as though it has been replaced often and the frame work of the window appears to have been hastily adapted to different sizes of glass over the years. Weather stripping, in the form of rolled bead cotton wicks, is missing or deteriorated around the door joints.

The door to the storage room will not shut due to settling of the porch planks. Hinges are badly racked and loose. The wood pivot latch is in working order.

### 3) Floors and Foundation

The floor in the main cabin consists of 1 inch random width planks nailed to 2-3 inch diameter log stringers. The stringers are placed on grade at 2 feet to 2 feet 6 inches on center. The floor shows a slight bow and is heaving slightly in the middle. There are no holes or hollow spots in the boards, but, they appear loose in places. Condition of the stringers is unknown though they are probably rotting since they are on grade and exposed to the ground moisture.

The porch floor is heavily weathered and deteriorating in places. The boards are loose and the two stringers underneath are rotting considerably.

The sill logs on all sides of the building are in the final stages of decay. Soft and yielding to the touch, they show signs of dry rot and there may be carpenter ant activity. The sill logs are set directly on the ground with no evidence of any sub-foundation or rock piling. There may have been a garden along the south side at one time but everything has decomposed - including part of the foundation along the wall.



b. U.S. Commissioner's Court

A one story, three room, V-notched (with "Hudson Bay" corners on the porch) log cabin. Gable roof runs north and south with a low-sloped shed roof on the addition on the west side of the building. Originally a one room cabin, the porch extension on the south end enclosed what had been a 7 foot 6 inch cantilevered overlay over the entry. The addition on the west side was constructed in the 1950's and consists of 5-6 inch logs notched into the 8-12 foot logs of the main cabin.

1) Roof

There are two roofs on the structure. The original roof was a sod roof with sod placed on top of a split-log ceiling. The ceiling members appear to be in very good condition from underneath and there is very little evidence of leakage. The top side of the ceiling members may be considerably deteriorated due to their constant contact with the sod roofing. Some of the sod has begun to filter down between the ceiling members and onto the floor. The butting poles at the ends of the ceiling members appear to be in fair condition, indicating that the ceiling members have not had problems incurred by wicking.

The newer roof is heavily weathered. (There does not appear to be any vegetation growing on the roof). This roof consists of a double layer of roofing felt (horizontal layer over vertical layer) over 1 inch random width boards supported by 2 x 4 inch rafters. The rafters are held above the sod layer by means of a 3 x 4 inch purlin or plate placed directly above the plate logs along both eaves. There is a slight sway along the eave of the newer roof. The secondary purlins have been extended 2 1/2 feet beyond the original roof in front and one foot beyond in the back, thus keeping the end walls from deteriorating. The purlins show signs of rapid deterioration.

The porch roof was added after the second roof was built but the tar paper extends over it. The porch roof consists of 1/2" inch plywood over 3 inch rafter logs at 16 inches on center. The plywood is deteriorating, sagging and water stained. The slope of the addition roof is less than 2 inches in 12 inches and leakage is considerable. The junction of the addition roof and the second roof on the main cabin leaks badly and there is no evidence of any flashing. Resolution of the detailing at that junction and at the junction of the addition walls where they go beyond the butting pole of the old roof was never fully worked out and involved a great deal of moss chinking - most of which is missing.

Structurally, the main roof of the cabin is sound, although the plate logs, purlins and ridge beam all show serious weathering, from wicking, at the ends. Eave logs at all three end walls of the main cabin and porch are decayed and/or broken. All of the original peg holes that supported the butting poles are gone or unusable.

## 2) Walls, Windows, and Doors (Main Cabin)

Main cabin walls consist of 8 inch-12 inch unpeeled V-notched logs hewn flat on the inside surface. Structurally, they are all sound above grade. The south wall seems to lean to the north 3-4 inches from the eave log up to the ridge. Most of the chinking is intact, but not all. Exposed ends of the logs are weathered and wicking has caused decaying of the ends - especially on those logs which have sawn ends. The ends of the eave logs are usable. There are vents in both end walls with mosquito netting over the north vent.

All of the logs on the west wall have been notched 2 inches deep to accept the 5-6 inch logs of the addition on that side. The window was removed and the lower logs cut to make a doorway into the addition. No indications of a door or the door frame that was set there. The window that was removed was apparently the one which was then used in the west wall of the addition. Door jambs made from rough sawn 1 inch boards and trimmed only on the inside. All trim work and window and door jambs painted green. (Probably a recent paint job because the paint is not faded.)

The window on the east side is intact with the glass missing. The frame was built around a manufactured sash. The sash is held in place with wood stops. Logs on outside hewn flat on both sides of the window to allow trim to lay flat. Trim made from 1 inch x 4 inch rough sawn boards.

The entry door is made with diagonal planking on the outside face of vertical boards. It has a wood handle inside and out with a wood pivot latch inside. The hinges are still tight. The jamb is made from 1 1/2 inch x 6 1/2 inch boards with 1 1/2 inch x 5 inch trim on one side of outside and 1 inch x 5 1/2 inch trim on all sides of the inside. Outside logs are hewn flat to take thick trim boards.

## 3) Walls, Doors (Porch)

The porch walls consists of 5 1/2 inch-6 inch logs horizontally stacked with Hudson Bay corners. Corner splines are loose on most joints. Horizontal logs are notched around the splines but nailed to splines in very few places. Large cracks are opening up between logs toward the tops of the corner posts - due to settling of the outside corners (or potentially, to heaving under the door toward the center of the wall). The posts on each side of the door are similar in detail to the corner posts. The door posts are also notched into the eave log which doubles as the header log over the door.

The joint between the main cabin log extensions and the porch wall logs consists of a spline nailed to the ends of the main cabin logs and notches in the porch wall logs (very similar to the Hudson Bay cornering). Splines are loose here also, but the joint is fairly tight. The chinking along this joint is also missing as it is through out the porch walls.

#### 4) Walls, Window (Addition)

Walls consist of 5 inch-6 inch peeled logs, saddle-notched at the outside corners and set into the main cabin walls in a notch. The corner extensions are about 6 inches at the bottoms of the corners and up to 16 inches at the top. The logs are in good condition due to the fact that they are less than 30 years old and peeled. Wicking has not yet begun to deteriorate them even though the roof does not cover any of the ends. Many of the logs have saw kerfs running through them across the grain (as much as 80% of the way through the logs). Mildew is forming on some of the top logs because of the leakage through the roof.

The window is intact and the glass unbroken on the west wall. The trim is placed outside and inside of the full rounded width of the logs. The sash seems to have been placed on its side in the frame, since the rails and stiles would otherwise match up to those on the window on the east side of the main cabin.

#### 5) Floors and Foundations

The floor in the main cabin (and the porch and addition) consists of 1 inch random width boards nailed to stringers laid on grade. The floors in the main cabin and the addition are springy and loose. In the addition they are rotten and in the porch they are missing altogether. The stringers in most cases also seem to be rotten and in the porch many of them are missing.

The sill logs are 12-14 inches in diameter for the main cabin and the east and west logs extend all the way out to the end of the porch to support the corner posts. All the sill logs are rotted and deteriorating. There is no apparent footing (either rocks or other) under any of the sill logs. The sill logs on the addition are also showing signs of decay and there is evidence of carpenter ants in some places.

#### c. U.S. Commissioner's Residence

A one story, two room, saddle-notched log cabin (with the porch walled in with Hudson Bay corners). Gable runs north and south with the entry through the porch on the south end. There is a higher level of detail in this building than any of the three buildings of this report with fabric covering walls and ceilings and split-log trim on all openings as well as three complete shelving systems. A gravel and soil berm circles the building with an opening for the front entry.

##### 1) Roof

General condition of the roof is poor to bad. The roof consists of two systems, the newer roof placed on top of the original. The original system consists of split 4-7 inch logs (split face down) laid across the ridgebeam, purlins and plate logs. Sod insulation (probably 6-10 inches deep) covered the logs and was held in



place by dovetails to the split-log butting poles. Most of the sod is gone and the ends of the ceiling logs are decayed and rotting. Some of the ends have fallen off. The butting poles are missing in places and deteriorated elsewhere. The underside of the ceiling logs are covered with green burlap and there are several bad water stains indicating leakage through the roof. The ridge beam is sound as are the purlins. The plate logs are considerably deteriorated. The rotted plate logs coupled with leaning walls make the roof sway along both eaves. A collar log spans between the purlins in the rear and the purlins extend 16" beyond the end of the ceiling logs.

The newer roof, a 2 inch x 4 inch rafter system sheathed with 1 inch x 8 inch boards and covered with rolled asphalt roofing, is supported by 3 x 4 inch purlins laid on top of the sod roof above the plate logs. Rafters and purlins are deteriorated. Much of the asphalt roofing is missing or badly torn and there are willows growing through the roof from the sod beneath. Fascia boards (1 x 10 inch) are warped, weather and/or missing. This newer roof extends 2 feet beyond the gable end of the original roof in front and 10 inches beyond in the rear. Boards are extended to the ends of the plate logs and ridge beam and the fascia of the new roof (probably to hold the roof down in winds).

## 2) Walls, Windows, and Doors (Main Cabin)

All main cabin walls are built from 7-11 inch diameter unpeeled logs, hewn flat inside. Most logs appear to be sound with the exception of the plate logs on both sides and the bottom three log courses on the exterior walls. These lower logs have been covered with berming from the outside and are rapidly deteriorating. The side walls lean in about 4 inches at the top due to the decayed plate log and the lack of support along the window jambs. Eave logs are in good shape - they do not extend beyond the side walls. The north and south walls of the main cabin are in good condition with the exception of some missing chinking on the north wall.

The same green burlap fabric that covers the ceiling also covers the walls. The fabric is brittle in many places. It is water stained around and below leaks and faded where the sun or the heat of the stove strikes it. In places the fabric is held in place with brass upholstery tacks and in others by staples. The water stained areas are decayed and deteriorate at a touch.

Shelving systems around both side windows and above the rear (north) window are in good condition, except where thrown out of line by the upheaval of the floor boards.

Window frame, sill, and sash in north wall in good condition. Window frames and sashes are weathered but intact on east and west walls. The glass is cracked or missing in both panels of the west window and all three panels of the east window. All of the glazing compound is dried and brittle. One piece of split log trim is missing from the west wall window frame.

The front door to the main cabin is intact and in good condition. The frames and glass on both side lites are in good shape. Upheaval of the floor in the center of the wall has caused a slight separation of the trim pieces around the windows. The door's hinges are broken and the door leans against the opening.

### 3) Walls, Windows, and Door (Porch Enclosure)

The walls to the porch consist of Hudson Bay cornered infills above a 2 to 6 foot saddle-notched knee wall. Logs on the east and west walls are separated by 1/2 inch to 1 inch from the ends of the main cabin logs. Both front corners of the porch are dropped approximately 4 inches from the center of the wall (probably because of the deterioration of the sill logs). Except for the bottom three log courses and the plate logs, all of the logs themselves are in good condition. Gaps have opened up below the eave log on the south wall with much of the chinking deteriorating and eroded.

Front door is in excellent condition with the exception of the canvas covering on the outside which is torn and deteriorating. The trim around the windows and door frame is interconnected with a single head trim piece. The settling of the corners of the porch has caused the trim around the windows to become separated and the pegs holding the trim in place to loosen. The settling has also racked both window frames and broken the glass in the frames. The window frames are heavily weathered.

Fabric on the inside walls of the porch is a white canvas or duck cloth. All of the fabric is water stained and mildewed and in advanced stages of decay. In many places the canvas is serving to hold in moisture and debris, thus accelerating the rate of decay of the wall logs, especially at the bottom, as well as the canvas itself. All of the shelving systems in the porch are thrown together and built out of old crates and scraps of wood. Many are broken and falling apart.

### 4) Floors and Foundations

The floor in the main cabin consists of 1 1/4 inch x 8 inch average, random width, rough sawn planks on log stringers on grade at 2 feet to 6 feet on center. There is considerable heaving in the center of the floor where it appears to be 2 to 3 inches higher than at the east and west walls. In many places the boards are raised completely clear of the stringers. Substantial gaps have opened up between the boards in many places.

The porch floor is the same construction as the main cabin floor. It is in poor to bad condition with a patch having already been attempted on the east side of the floor. The boards are very soft along the west wall. Presently old catalogs and newspapers are piled along the east end, rotting and deteriorating the boards as the acid leaches out.

The condition of the log foundation throughout is poor to bad. The sill and spandrel logs rest on grade with no foundation or piers beneath the logs. Gravel and soil are buried up 8 to 12 inches on the

outside of the building and the grade below the floor is 8-12 inches below the original outside grade. The berming around the perimeter has caused rapid deterioration of the bottom three logs of each wall including the sill logs. The sill logs have become "one with the soil."

## 2. RECOMMENDED TREATMENT

Many of the preparations and treatments are the same for all of the buildings. The treatments vary only in detail on each. Since the buildings are of similar construction, it is the individual detailing on each that sets it apart from the others. (For individual variations and details see the drawings at the back).

This report is written to provide technical support for an experienced craftsperson. Most of the work that has been done and needs to be done on these buildings is straight forward and requires common sense as much as proven carpentry skills. The craftsperson should familiarize his/herself with the existing conditions and detailing before beginning any work on the buildings.

The sill logs and spandrels need to be replaced with pressure treated timbers on all of the buildings. This entails jacking the building up off of the rotted logs. Once the bad logs have been removed the soil must be removed from under each wall. The 10" x 10" pressure treated timbers are then set on undisturbed soil. At this point it will be necessary to rip two of the wall logs in half so that they will all rest flat on the new sill timbers. The first course of logs (including the half logs) is then attached to the sill members with drifted rebar.

A major problem for all of the buildings has been moisture in the soil around the sill logs. A 4 inch to 6 inch bed of gravel should then be placed in the floor joist space. Drain tile is also set on gravel and sloped (1/8 inch in 12 inch minimum slope) toward the rear of the building. Most of the drainage problem will occur below the eaves of the roof therefore the tiles should be centered below the eave line. A layer of gravel over the tile is then set before replacing the soil up to the original grade.

Roof preparation for each building will require the removal of everything above the ceiling planks. Once the ceiling planks are exposed they can be checked for evidence of decay. At this point each building will have a slightly different procedure.

### a. WOMEN'S JAIL, TREATMENT

#### 1) Roof:

a) Remove all sod and covering materials from ceiling planks.

b) Scrape and brush all signs of rot and decay from the surface of all ceiling planks.

c) Existing eave logs should be removed (by jacking up the plate logs on both sides).

d) New eave logs should be notched (patterned after the old logs and drawings) and set in place.

e) Remove all ceiling planks that show excessive deterioration including planks that are less than 1 1/2 inch to 2 inches thick after removing surface decay and those planks that have badly rotted or broken ends.

f) Replace all planks that were removed.

(Note: Replacement should be the same basic size and shape - toolmarks should be applied to the underside and the ends with broad axes and adzes.)

g) New butting poles should be pre-drilled (1 3/4 inch holes) for the 1 1/2 inch square pegs that hold them in place on the eave logs.

h) Butting poles should be spiked to the ends of the ceiling planks to prevent sagging.

i) Rafters (2 1/4 inch x 6 inch) are placed 16" on center on top of the ceiling planks starting flush with the outer most ceiling planks on the west end of the roof.

j) Blocking (2 inch x 6 inch) should be provided between the rafters above the side walls (as per drawings).

k) Roof sheathing (1 inch x 8 inch) is applied with 12d nails across the rafters.

l) Roofing felt (30 pound) should be rolled along the sheathing starting from the bottom of each eave. (Applied with 1 inch roofing nails - 4 inch lap top and bottom.)

m) Galvanized, rolled tin, 24 gauge in 30 inch rolls is to be cut into 30 inch x 30 inch sheets and treated with vinegar to remove the oils.

n) The tin sheets are then applied across the bottom of the eave with a 6 inch lap on the sides and 6 inch laps between each row. (Asphalt roofing tar is to be applied between each sheet where they lap.) The sheets are nailed with 1 1/4 inch leadhead roofing nails - tar applied over each exposed nailhead.

o) Paint roof brown when tar sets up.



2) Walls:

a) Loose chinking should be removed.

b) New moss chinking should be jammed into all cracks and holes between logs.

c) A piece of log should be cut to fit into the top hole in the west wall.

d) Remove all boards and posts of the storage room.

e) At this point the floor boards on the porch should be replaced.

f) Replace all the posts with 4 inch x 4 inch posts, attaching posts to the logs with log spikes. Toenail free-standing posts to the plate log, ceiling plank, and floor boards with 12d nails.

g) Apply new boards (1 inch x 8 inch) to the posts - in same configuration as original boards.

h) Rehand existing storage room door and reuse the latch mechanism.

3. Floors:

a) Existing floorboards and stringers should be removed.

b) Excavate to the bottom of the sill timbers.

c) Attach 2 inch x 6 inch rim joists to the north and south sill timbers, 1 inch below top of sill.

d) Toenail 2 inch x 6 inch joists 16 inches on center flush with top of rim joists.

e) Floor boards (1 inch x 8 inch) nailed to joists with 12d nails - stagger the butt joints at least 2 joists on each adjacent board.

f) Excavate porch area to 12 inches below top of sill timber.

g) Fill with 4 inches of gravel.

h) Set 6 inches x 6 inches treated timbers on gravel and fill back against the front timber.

i) Nail 1 1/2 inch x 10 inches floor boards to timbers.



4) Windows and Doors:

a) Remove window frame from west wall.

b) Build new frame for opening with 1/2 inch x 7/8 inch rabbet on inside edge (see detail).

c) Flatten rounded logs on outside wall around window opening. Flatten logs approximately 5 inches back from opening. Make the wall a consistent 6 1/2 inches thick at the opening.

d) Shim window square and level and nail with 12d nails. Chink around edges with moss.

e) Rip 4 inch logs in half for trim pieces and attach trim with 16d nails. (See detail for mitre cuts.)

f) Cut glass to fit frame. Set in a bed of caulking and attach 1/2inch by 3/4inch stops (milled on site) with 6d finish nails.

g) Chisel rabbet along edge of south window. Saw kerf is 1/2 inch deep.

h) Remove broken glass from south window and replace.

i) Set new glass in bead of caulking and attach new stops with 6d finish nails.

j) Replace glass in front door.

k) Replace hinges on front door.

l) Remove old lockset.

m) Install new lockset and deadbolt.

b. U.S. Commissioner's Court:

The court building has two alternative treatments; Alternative "A" involves removing the addition that was put on in the 1950's. Alternative "B" involves the treatments necessary to rehabilitate the building in its present configuration.

b.a. Alternative "A":

1) Addition:

a) Remove all roofing and ceiling members from the addition on the west side.

b) Remove window frame and sash intact (care should be taken with this as it will be reused in the cabin).

c) Remove all logs from the addition.

d) Remove all floor boards and stringers.

e) Repair any damage to the surrounding environment which was caused by the addition (re-sod area and fill trenches).

2) Roof: (Should be worked on after west wall is done.

a) Remove all sod and covering materials from ceiling planks.

b) Scrape and brush all signs of rot and decay from the surface of all ceiling planks.

c) Existing eave logs should be removed (by jacking up the plate logs on both sides).

d) New eave logs should be notched (patterned after the old logs and drawings) and set in place.

e) Remove all ceiling planks that show excessive deterioration, including planks that are less than 1 1/2" to 2" thick after removing surface decay and those planks that have badly rotted or broken ends.

f) Replace all planks that were removed. (Note: Replacement should be the same basic size and shape - toolmarks should be applied to the underside and the ends.)

g) New butting poles should be set in notches in eave logs and spiked in place (butt the poles over the eave log at the south wall of the main cabin).

h) Butting poles should be spiked to the ends of the ceiling planks to prevent sagging.

i) Rafters (2 inches x 6 inches) are placed 16 inches on center with 3 foot outriggers extending out to create an overhang 2 inches to 3 inches past the ends of the longest purlins or plate logs at both ends.

j) Blocking (2 inches x 6 inches) is placed between the rafters, above the plate logs on the east and west sides.

k) Roof sheathing should run diagonally across outriggers and rafters after insulation is placed between the rafters.

l) Roofing felt (30 pound) should be rolled across the sheathing starting from the bottom of each eave. (Applied with 1 inch roofing nails with 4 inch lap top and bottom.)

m) Galvanized, rolled tin, 24 Gauge in 30 inch rolls is to be cut into 30 inch by 30 inch sheets and treated with vinegar to remove the oils.

n) The tin sheets are then applied across the bottom of the eave with a 6 inch lap on the sides and 6 inch laps between each row. (Asphalt roofing tar is to be applied between each sheet where they lap.) The sheets are nailed with 1 1/4 inch leadhead roofing nails and tar applied over each exposed nailhead.

o) Paint roof brown when tar sets up.

### 3) Walls (Main Cabin):

a) Remove and replace all logs on the west wall one at a time. (Existing logs have notches from the addition walls.) Leave an opening for the window which was removed from the west wall of the addition. Logs on both sides of the windows should be drilled and pinned together with #4 rebar. Pinning should occur 4 inch and 8 inch (staggered from one log to the next) from the window opening.

b) Loose chinking should be removed.

c) New moss chinking should be jammed into all cracks and holes between logs.

### 4) Walls (Porch):

a) Remove board chinking from both sides of south wall.

b) Remove top log of east and west walls (below the plate logs).

c) Remove top log of south wall (2 pieces - below the eave log).

d) Remove nails that attach slotted horizontal logs to splines.

e) Renail splines to all posts and ends of main cabin logs. (Lift individual logs and place 20d nail between every other log.)

f) Replace top logs under eave log and plate logs and renail ends of slotted logs to splines.

g) Remove loose chinking from all logs.

h) New moss chinking should be jammed into all cracks and holes between logs.

5) Floors:

- a) Existing floorboards and stringers should be removed.
- b) Excavate to the bottom of the sill timbers.
- c) Excavate a 4 inch to 6 inch deep trench north to south down center of foundation.
- d) Set 4 inch x 6 inch treated timber on the undisturbed soil (bottom flush with bottom of sill timbers.
- e) Attach 2 inch x 6 inch rim joists to east and west sill timbers, flush with top of sills.
- f) Toenail 2 inch x 6 inch joints 16" on center flush with rim joists.
- g) Floor boards (1 inch x 8 inch) nailed to joists with 12d nails - stagger the butt joints at least 2 joints on each adjacent board.

6) Windows and Doors:

- a) Install window frame and sash in west wall.
- b) Set glass in east and west windows with glazing points and seal with glazing compound.
- c) Replace hinges and install clasp on porch door.

bb. Alternative "B"

1) Addition on West Side:

- a) Jack up addition walls and remove all logs below grade.
- b) Excavate 10 inches to 12 inches below grade under the walls and fill trenches with 4"-6" of gravel.
- c) Set 6 inches x 6 inches treated timbers on the gravel. (Top should be flush with top of sill timbers of main cabin.)
- d) Rip bottom logs of north and south walls in half so that they rest flat on the sill timbers.
- e) Attach bottom logs to sill timbers with #4 rebar (10 inch lengths).

f) Remove all roofing and ceiling members from the addition.

g) Remove all logs above west wall plate log.  
(Save logs.)

2) Roof:

a) Remove all sod and covering materials from ceiling planks.

b) Scrape and brush all signs of rot and decay from the surface of all ceiling planks.

c) Existing eave logs should be removed (by jacking up the plate logs on both sides).

d) New eave logs should be notched (patterned after the old logs and drawings) and set in place.

e) Remove all ceiling planks that show excessive deterioration including planks that are less than 1 1/2 inches to 2 inches thick after removing surface decay and those planks that have badly rotted or broken ends.

f) Replace all planks that were removed.  
(Note: Replacement should be the same basic size and shape - tool marks should be applied to the underside and the ends.

g) New butting poles should be set in notches in eave logs and spiked in place (butt the poles over the eave log at the south wall of the main cabin).

h) Butting poles should be spiked to the ends of the ceiling planks to prevent sagging.

i) Rafters (2 inches x 6 inches) are placed 16 inches on center with 3 foot outriggers extending out to create an overhand 2 inches to 3 inches past the ends of the longest purlins or plate logs at both ends.

j) Rebuild the tops of the north and south walls of the addition with those logs that can be reused. Replace any logs that are too badly damaged. The logs should be scribed to fit around the butting pole and the ceiling planks of the main cabin.

k) Plane the top of the wall flat from the top of the addition's west wall plate log to the top end of the rafters on the main cabin.

l) Put 2 inches x 6 inches blocking between the ends of the rafters between the walls of the addition.

m) Roof sheathing should run diagonally across outriggers and rafters of the main cabin after insulation is placed between the rafters.

n) Rafters (2 inches x 6 inches) are placed 16 inches on center at the addition and the bottom of the rafter should be flush with the ends of the sheathing and nailed to the sheathing of the main cabin.

o) Rafters should be placed over the north and south walls.

p) Blocking (2 inches x 6 inches) should be placed above the plate log of the addition.

q) Roof sheathing (1 inch x 8 inches) should be placed across the rafters of the addition after insulation is installed.

r) Roofing felt (30 pound) should be rolled across the sheathing starting from the bottom of the addition and the bottoms of the two eaves (double layer with 18 inch overlaps on the addition - single layer with 4 inch overlaps on the main cabin).

s) Galvanized, rolled tin, 24 Gauge in 30 inch x 30 inch sheets are to be treated with vinegar to remove the oils before applying.

t) The tin sheets are then applied across the bottom of the eave with a 6 inch lap on the sides and 6 inch laps between each row (8 inch laps all around on the roof of the addition). Asphalt roofing tar is to be applied between each sheet where they lap. The sheets are nailed with 1 1/4 inch leadhead roofing nails with tar applied over each exposed nailhead.

u) Galvanized 30 inch, 24 Gauge flashing is applied to the valley at the junction of the main cabin over the roofing sheets on the addition and under the sheets of the main cabin.

v) Paint roof brown when tar sets up.

w) Ceiling boards (1 inch x 6 inch) are applied to the underside of the rafters running north south. If necessary, a ledger board should be set above the north and south walls for a nailer.

### 3) Walls (Main Cabin):

a) Loose chinking should be removed.

b) New moss chinking should be jammed into all cracks and holes between logs.



4) Walls (Porch):

- a) Remove board chinking from both sides of south wall.
- b) Remove top log of east and west walls (below the plate logs).
- c) Remove top log of south wall (2 pieces - below the eave log).
- d) Remove nails that attach slotted horizontal logs to splines.
- e) Renail splines to all posts and ends of main cabin logs. (Lift individual logs and place 20d nail between every other log.)
- f) Replace top logs under eave log and plate logs and renail ends of slotted logs to splines.
- g) New moss chinking should be jammed into all cracks and holes between logs.

5) Floors (Main cabin and porch):

- a) Existing floorboards and stringers should be removed.
- b) Excavate to the bottom of the sill timbers.
- c) Excavate a 4 inch by 6 inch deep trench north to south down center of foundation.
- d) Set 4 inch x 6 inch treated timber on the grade (bottom flush with bottom of sill timbers).
- e) Attach 2 inch x 6 inch rim joists to east and west sill timbers, flush with top of sills.



f) Toenail 2"x6" joists 16" on center flush with rim joists.

g) Floor boards (1"x8") nailed to joists with 12d nails - stagger the butt joints at least 2 joists on each adjacent board.

6) Floor (Addition):

a) Remove existing floorboards and stringers.

b) Excavate to the bottom of the sill timbers of the main cabin and fill with gravel up to the bottoms of the addition sill timbers.

c) Set 2"x6" floor joists on grade (toenailed to the sill timbers) at 24" on center.

d) Floorboards (1"x6") nailed to joists with 12d nails - stagger butt joints at least 2 joists on each adjacent board.

7) Windows and Doors:

a) Square up and shim from and sash of west window.

b) Set glass in east and west windows with glazing points and seal with glazing compound.

c) Replace hinges and install hasp on porch door.

c. Commissioner's Residence, Treatment:

1) Roof:

a) Remove all sod and covering materials from ceiling planks and green fabric from ceiling and ridge/purlins.

b) Scrape and brush all signs of rot and decay from the surface of all ceiling planks.

c) Remove all ceiling planks that show excessive deterioration including planks that are less than 1 1/2"-2" thick after removing surface decay and those planks that have badly rotted or broken ends.

d) Remove plate logs on east and west walls. (This will entail providing a temporary support for the remaining ceiling planks and also plumbing up both walls. Once the plates are removed the walls must be shored out at the top.)

e) Replace the plate logs with new logs cut and notched to match the old ones. Use #4 rebar in 24 inch lengths every 3 feet to attach the plate logs to the other logs on the walls.

f) Replace all planks that were removed. Every 5th plank should have a 6 inch dovetail extending beyond the end of the rest of the planks. (Note: Replacements should be the same basic size and shape - tool marks should be applied to the underside of each plank.)

g) New butting poles should be ripped in half and cut to fit over the dovetails at the ends of the planks.

h) Rafters (2 inch x 6 inch) are placed 16 inches on center on top of the ceiling planks starting flush with the 4 1/2 inch diameter log fascia at each end of the ceiling planks.

i) Fascia boards (1 inch x 6 inch) should be nailed to the ends of the rafters with 12d nails.

j) Attach the butting poles, sliding them onto the dovetails from above and nailing them to the ends of the ceiling planks with 20d nails.

k) Roof sheathing (1 inch x 8 inch) is applied with 12d nails across the rafters.

l) Roofing felt (30 pound) should be rolled along the sheathing starting from the bottom of each eave. (Applied with 1 inch roofing nails to 4 inch lap top and bottom.)

m) Galvanized, rolled tin, 24 gauge in 30 inch rolls is to be cut into 30 inch x 30 inch sheets and treated with vinegar to remove the oils.

n) The tin sheets are then applied across the bottom of the eave with a 6 inch lap on the sides and 6 inch laps between each row. (Asphalt roofing tar is to be applied between each sheet where they lap.) The sheets are nailed with 1 1/4 inch leadhead roofing nails with tar applied over each exposed nailhead.

o) Paint roof brown when tar sets up.

## 2) Walls (Main cabin):

a) Remove all cloth covering walls.

b) Carefully remove trim from east and west windows. (Trim will be reused.)

c) Carefully remove window frames and sashes from east and west windows. (Frames and sashes will be reinstalled.)

d) Chisel a 2 inch x 2 inch groove in the ends of the logs on each side of the windows. Also gouge a hole into the top and bottom logs on each side, 3 inches deep at the top and 1 1/2 inches deep on the bottom.

e) Cut a 2 inch x 2 inch board 2 1/2 inches taller than the window opening and set it into the trench. Nail it in place with 20d nails.

f) Replace window frames, sashes, and trim. Nail the frame to the opening on all sides to secure the wall logs.

g) Remove all loose chinking.

h) New moss chinking should be jammed into all cracks and holes between logs.

### 3) Walls (Porch):

a) Remove loose chinking and fabric from all walls.

b) Remove nails that attach horizontal logs to splines.

c) With both the sill timbers and the plate logs replaced the corner post should be tight. Toenail it at the top and bottom with 16d nails.

d) Renail splines to posts and main cabin log ends.

e) Check top logs (under eave and plate logs) to see that they are the right size. If too large, trim down the top for a tighter fit. If too small remove and replace with a larger log.

f) Renail logs to splines.

g) New moss chinking should be jammed into all cracks and holes between the logs.

### 4) Floors:

a) Remove existing floor boards and stringers.

b) Excavate level with the bottom of the sill timbers.

c) Dig a trench 4 inches to 6 inches north-south in the center of the floor.

d) Set 4 inch x 6 inch timber in porch area.  
Set 3 inch x 6 inch timbers in main cabin area.

e) Joists run east-west and are flush with the top of the sill timbers in the porch and 1 inch below the sill in the main cabin.

f) Floor boards (1 inch x 8 inch) are nailed to joists with 12d nails - stagger the butt joints at least 2 joists on each adjacent board.

5) Windows and Doors (Main cabin):

a) Set new glass in east and west windows with glazing points and seal with glazing compound.

b) Replace missing trim piece on west window.

c) Replace the hinges on the door to the main cabin.

d) Reshim window frames on north wall beside door. Tighten trim pieces.

e) Replace glass in both windows of north wall and set in a bead of caulk. Attach 1/2 inch x 3/4 inch stops with 6d finish nails.

6) Windows and Doors (Porch):

a) Reshim window frames.

b) Reset trim around windows.

c) Replace glass and set in bead of caulk. Attach 1/2 inch x 3/4 inch stops.

3. MATERIAL LIST AND COST ESTIMATES

a. Women's Jail

1) Lumber, Rough Sawn, White Spruce

1"x8" x 8'	76	406 bf.
1"x6" x 8'	20	80 bf.
Subtotal		485 bf.
2"x6" x 8'	42	336 bf.
2"x6" x 10'	18	180 bf.
Subtotal		516 bf.
4"x4" x 8'	4	44 bf.
4"x12" x 8'	40	1280 bf.
Total		2325 bf.

2) Timbers: Douglas Fir, Pressure Treated with (CCA) Chromated Copper Arsenate, Select Structural (No. 1) full dimension, rough cut labeled (LP-22 Ground Contact 40).

10"x10" x 8'	8	534 bf.
6" x6" x 6'	4	<u>72</u> bf.

Total	606 bf.
-------	---------

3) Galvanized, Rolled Tin, 24GA  
30" roll (to be cut into 30"x30" sheets)

200'

4) Rolled Roofing Felt, 30#, Black

300 sq. ft. Required	3 rolls
----------------------	---------

5) Reinforcing Steel (Rebar)

#4 (16" lengths)	30'
------------------	-----

6) Nails:

Galv. 16d Common	25#
Galv. 12d Common	25#
Galv. Roofing Nails 1"	20#
6d Finish	1#
Log spikes, 6"-7"	30#

7) Galv. Leadhead roofing nails  
1 1/4"

50#

8) Hardware:

4" strip hinges	2 pr.
Face mount, lockset	1
Face mount, deadbolt	1

9) Glass: Single strength

12" x 10 1/2"	1
11 3/8" x 19 1/2"	1
25 1/8" x 20 3/8"	1

10) Silicone Caulking, Clear 1 tube

11) Asphalt roofing tar 2 gal.

12) Brown paint (oil base, gloss) 2 gal.

13) Insulation, R-19

15 1/4" batts 6 rolls

14) Logs:

8" Dia. (Min.) x 16' 2  
4" Dia. (Min.) x 22' 2

15) Lumber, rough sawn, white spruce

1 1/2" x 10" x 6' 16 120 bf.

16) Douglas Fir, #1, Clear

2" x 8" x 8' 2 21 bf.

b. U.S. Commissioner's Court (Alt. "A")

1) Lumber, Rough sawn, White Spruce

1"x8" x 8'	200	1067 bf.
2"x6" x 8'	60	480 bf.
2"x6" x 10'	36	360 bf.
Subtotal		840 bf.
3"x8" x 10'	30	600 bf.
Total		2507 bf.

2) Timber, Douglas Fir, pressure treated with Chromated Copper Arsenate, Select Structural (No-1) full dimension rough cut, labeled (LP-22 Ground Contact 40).

10"x10" x 8'	12	800 bf.
4"x6" x 8'	3	48 bf.
Total		848 bf.

3) Galvanized, rolled tin, 24GA  
30" roll (to be cut into 30"x30" sheets)

900

4) Rolled roofing felt, 30# black

900 Required 9 rolls

5) Reinforcing Steel (Rebar)

#4 (16" lengths) 50'



- 6) Nails:

Galv.	20d Common	20#
Galv.	16d Common	50#
Galv.	12d Common	50#
Galv.	Roofing nails	50#
Log Spikes	5"x6"	50#
- 7) Galv. Leadhead roofing nails

1 1/4"	100#
--------	------
- 8) Hardware:

4" strap hinges	2 pr.
Hasp & Staple, 4"	1
- 9) Glass, single strength

28" x 34 1/4"	2
---------------	---
- 10) Silicone Caulking, clear

1 tube
--------
- 11) Asphalt roofing tar

2 gal.
--------
- 12) Brown paint (oil base, gloss)

3 gal.
--------
- 13) Insulation, R-13

15 1/2" Batts	10 rolls
---------------	----------
- 14) Drain Tiles: 6" perforated PVC pipe

8' lengths	10
90° elbows	2
- 15) Logs, unpeeled, White Spruce

8" Dia. (min.) x 20'	3
3" Dia. (Min.) x 20'	2
3" Dia. (Min.) x 12'	2
8" Dia. (Min.) x 20'	9 (only on Alt. "A")

c. Alternative "B": Supplemental Materials List:  
 (To be added to those items on Alt. "A" list)

1) Lumber, Rough sawn White Spruce

1"x8" x 8'	30	160 bf.
1"x6" x 8'	80	320 bf.
Subtotal		480 bf.
2"x6" x 12'	16	192 bf.
Total		672 bf.

2) Timbers: Douglas Fir, pressure treated with (CCA) Chromated Copper Arsenate, Select Structural (No-1), full dimension, rough cut labeled (LP-22 Ground Contact).

6"x6" x 8'	5	120 bf.
2"x6" x 10'	10	100 bf.
Total		220 bf.

3) Galvanized rolled tin, 24 GA

30" roll 400

4) Roll roofing felt, 30# black

330 Ruired 4 rolls

5) Reinforcing Steel (Rebar)

#4 (16" lengths) 10'

12) Brown paint (oil 1 gal.  
base, gloss)

13) Insulation, R. 19

15 1/2" Batts 3 rolls

14) Drain Tile; 6" perforated PVC Pipe

8' lengths 4  
90° elbows 1

d. U.S. Commissioner's Residence

1) Lumber, Rough Sawn, White Spruce

1"x8" x 8'	200	1067 bf.
1"x6" x 8'	14	56 bf.
Subtotal		1123 bf.

2"x6" x 8'	56	448 bf.
2"x6" x 10'	50	<u>500</u> bf.
Total		2071 bf.

2) Timber, Douglas Fir, Pressure treated with (CCA) Chromated Copper Arsenate, Select Structural (No-1), full dimension, rough cut labeled (LP\_22 Ground Contact).

10"x10" x 8'	22	1467 bf.
6"x6" x 8'	26	624 bf.
4"x6" x 8'	1	16 bf.
3"x6" x 8'	2	<u>24</u> bf.
Total		2131 bf.

30" roll (cut into 30"x30" sheets)

800'

3) Rolled roofing felt, 30#, black

500# Required 6 rolls

4) Reinforcing steel (Rebar)

#4 (16" lengths) 80'

5) Nails:

Galv. 20d Common	50#
Galv. 16d Common	50#
Galv. 12d Common	50#
Galv. Roofing Nails, 1"	50#
Log Spikes, 10"	30#
Log Spikes, 6"	50#

6) Galv. Leadhead roofing nails

1 1/4" 100#

7) Hardware

4" Strap hinges	1 pr.
4" Hasp & staple	1

8) Glass: single strength

14"x20"	2
16"x20"	2
12"x9 3/4"	2
20 1/2"x14 1/2"	1

9) Silicone caulking, clear 1 tube

10) Asphalt Roofing Tar	2 Gal.
11) Brown Paint (oil base, gloss)	3 Gal.
12) Insulation, R-19	
15 1/2" Batt	9 rolls
13) Drain tile: 6" perforated P.V.C. Pipe	
8' lengths	13
90° elbows	2
14) Logs: Unpeeled, White Spruce	
9" Dia. (Min.) x 26'	3
7" Dia. (Min.) x 30'	2
6" Dia. (Min.) x 30'	3
15) Timber, Rough sawn, White Spruce	
3"x8" x 10'	40
3"x6" x 10'	50
Total	800 bf. 750 bf. <u>1550 bf.</u>

e. Cost Estimates

1) Hand Tools	\$12,000
2) Women's Jail	
a) Materials	2,600
b) Labor	8,690
c) Transport Materials	<u>9,298</u>
d) TOTAL	\$14,454
3) Commissioner's Residence	
a) Materials	\$ 6,004
b) Labor	8,008
c) Per diem	500
d) Transport Materials	<u>15,340</u>
e) TOTAL	\$29,852

4)	Commissioner's Courthouse	
	a) Materials	\$ 7,562
	b) Labor	9,280
	c) Per diem	600
	d) Transport Materials	<u>13,680</u>
	e) TOTAL	\$33,122
5)	Return of Materials	<u>3,950</u>
6)	GRAND TOTAL	\$93,378

This estimate was prepared by Maintenance Foreman Nick Powning and is good through the summer of 1984.

4. Tool List:

a. Handtools

1) Bow Saw, 36"	1
2) Handsaw, Crosscut	2
3) Bow saw blades, 36"	3
4) Hatchets	2
5) Axe	1
6) 5-Ton hydraulic jacks	8
7) 8' Step ladders	2
8) Shovels	3
9) "Comealong" winch	2
10) Framing hammers, 20 oz.	3
11) Hammer, 16 oz.	1
12) Sledge hammer, 8 lb.	2
13) Log chain, 3/4" links	30'
14) Log tongs	2
15) Crow bar, 36"	2
16) Steel pry bar, 5'	1
17) Flat "wonder" bar	1
18) Tape measure, 25'	2
19) Tape measure, 50'	1
20) Builder's level (Transit)	1
21) Tripod (for transit)	1
22) "Cats Paw"	2
23) 4' level	1
24) 2' level	1
25) Utility matt knife w/retracting blades)	2
26) Extra Matt knife blades (5/packet)	3 pkts.
27) Chalkline/plumb bob	2
28) Wood chisels (1/2", 3/4", 1", 1/4", 1/2", 2")	1 set
29) Pliers	2
30) Builder's square	2
31) Putty knives, 1", 3"	2 ea.
32) Caulking gun	1
33) Tin snips	3
34) Adze	1
35) Draw knives	2
36) Wheel barrow	1
37) Screw drivers; #2 phillips	2
38) Screw drivers; #2 slotted	2
39) Coarsle rasp	1
40) Pencils	10
41) Triangular metal file	2
42) Paint brushes 4"	4
43) 8" finish plane	1
44) Carborundum stone	1
45) Broad Axe	1



b. Power Tools

1)	Portable generator	1
2)	Extension cords, 100'	2
3)	Power worm drive saw, 7 1/2"	1
4)	Circular saw blades, 7 1/2"	
	cross cut	5
	rip	2
5)	Electric drill, 1/2"	
	var. sp., Rev.	1
6)	Drill Bits:	
	speed bore bits 3/8"=1 1/2"	1 set
	speed twist bits 1/16"-1/2"	1 set
	1/2" wood twist bit, 2' long	2
7)	Chain saw	1
8)	Chains for chain saw, 24"	
	cross cut chain	1
	rip chain	1
9)	Oil for chain saws	1 gal.
10)	Pre-mix fuel for chain saw	10 gal.
11)	Spark plugs for chain saw	2

5. Alternative Treatments

These alternatives take into consideration the fact that funds may not be available for the recommended treatment.

a. No Further Treatment: This alternative would result in further water damage and deterioration of Chisana Cabins from Wrangell-Saint Elias' severe weather conditions. Routine maintenance would continue. (This alternative is not recommended.)

b. Exterior Preservation Treatments Only: This alternative would include all essential work recommended for the exterior of the building; all roof work, replacement of deteriorated walls, sills and repair of windows and door. Routine maintenance would continue. (This alternative is not recommended because the only interior work left would be the floor and it would have to be removed to replace sill logs.)

c. Interior Adaptive Use Treatment Only: This alternative would include only floor plank replacement and would not fully stabilize deterioration of historic fabric. (This alternative is not recommended.)

Of all the alternative treatments, "b" is the preferred treatment because if these items were accomplished the structure would be effectively stabilized from deterioration.

## 6. Evaluation of Effect of the Recommended Treatment

### a. Discussion

The following determination of effect of the recommended treatments is made in accordance with section 800.4(b) of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations, "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties". The council's criteria reads as follows:

A federal, federally assisted, or federally licensed undertaking shall be considered to have an effect on a National Register property eligible for inclusion in the National Register (districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects, including their settings) when any condition of the undertaking causes or may cause any change, beneficial or adverse, in the quality of the historical, architectural, archeological, or cultural character that qualifies the property under the National Register Criteria.

Chisana cabins are currently being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. The architectural and historical qualities described in this National Register Nomination are briefly outlined in the following statements to be used in applying the criteria of effect.

1) Wooden details on the Commissioner's buildings and the Women's Jail show outstanding log craftsmanship, from hand carved wooden door knobs and hinges to decorative diamond shaped, wood details around window trim.

2) These structures are among the best remaining of early log communities of Gold Rush Alaska.

### b. Evaluation of Effect

1) No Effect: Recommended treatments having no effect on the qualities of Chisana Cabins that qualify them for individual nomination to the National Register are as follows:

a) There are no recommended treatments with no effect.

2) No Adverse Effect: Recommended treatments that are considered as having an overall beneficial effect on the Chisana Cabins are as follows:

a) All replacement of rotted roof, floor and wall timbers with new material insuring that as much historic fabric as possible is retained even if higher labor cost is incurred.

b) Removal of encroaching vegetation and sod from roofs.

c) Installation of new chinking.

d) Repair and reconstruction of windows.

e) Replacement of deteriorated roof sheathing.

3) Adverse Effect: Recommended treatments that are considered as having an adverse effect on the qualities of U.S. Commissioner's Court, U.S. Commissioner's Residence, and Women's Jail that qualify them for individual nomination to the National Register of Historic Places are as follows:

a) No Adverse Effect is anticipated from treatments recommended in this report.





C. ARCHEOLOGICAL DATA SECTION

The Chisana area cabins and their environs have not been surveyed and tested for prehistoric or historic period archeological resources. A survey will be scheduled and executed prior to any ground disturbing activities being conducted. All required reports and compliance documentation will also be completed.





## D. Existing Condition Photographs



Existing Condition Photographs, Dave Anderson, June 1983

Photograph 1  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Northeast Oblique.

Photograph 2  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
East Elevation.





Photograph 3  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
South Elevation.

Photograph 4  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
West Elevation.



Photograph 5  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
North Elevation.





Photograph 6  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
"Hole-in-Roof" Detail, South Side.



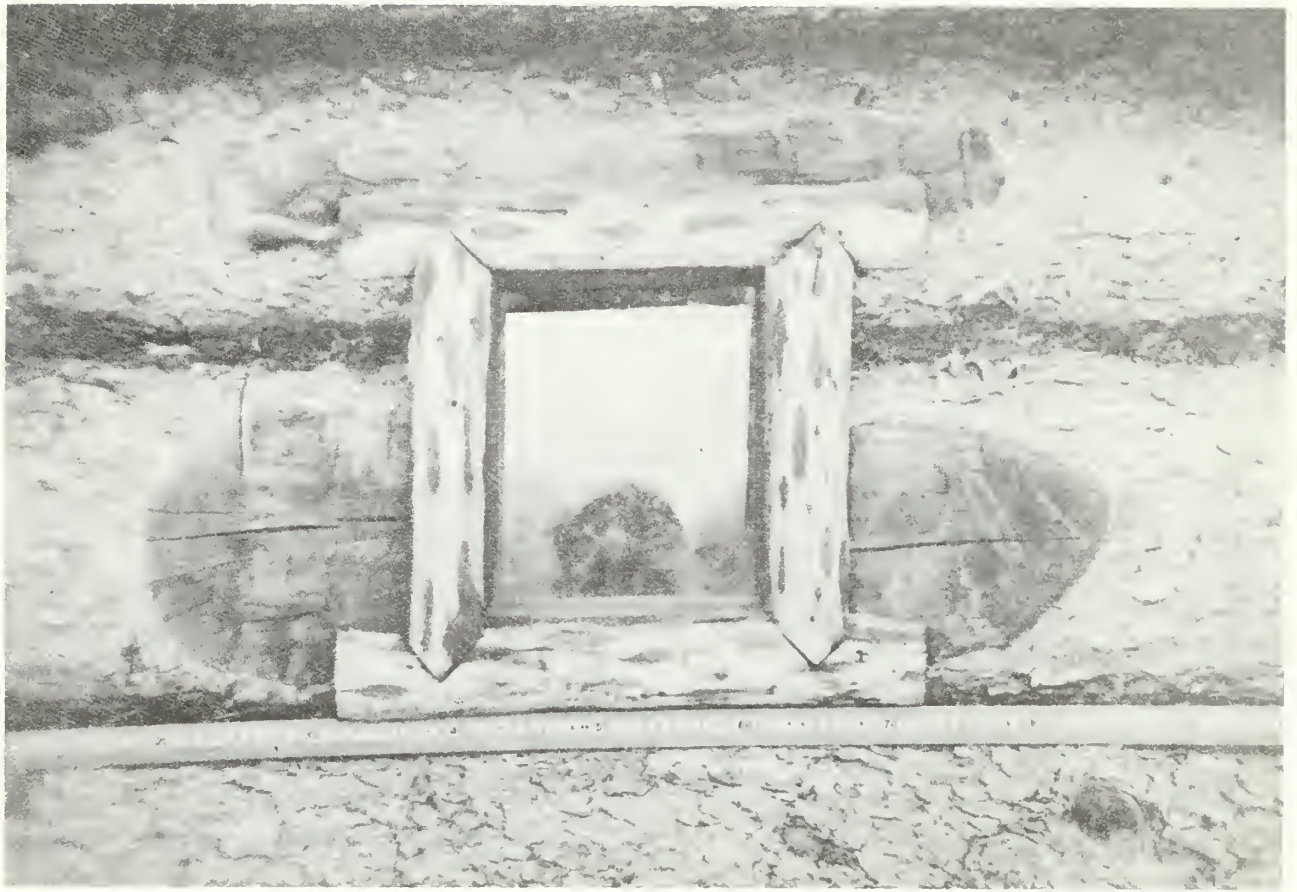


Photograph 7  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Collapsed Ceiling, South Side.

Photograph 8  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Interior; West wall, shelf & window.



Photograph 9  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Exterior; Window on north wall.



Photograph 10  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Interior; Window on north wall.

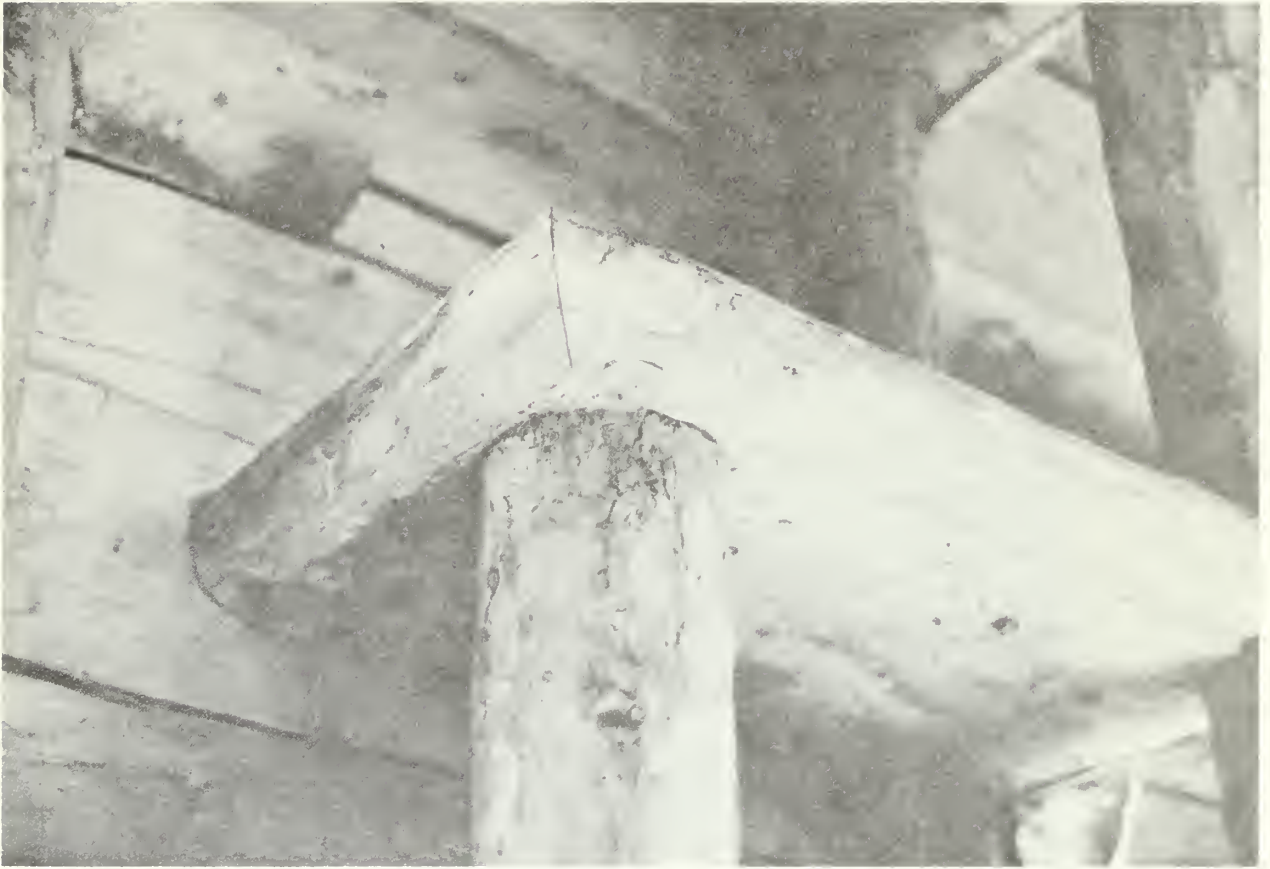






Photograph 11  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Interior; Shelf detail, south wall.

Photograph 12  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Northwest corner, log connections.



Photograph 13  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Floor planks, porch.



Photograph 14  
Women's Jail, Chisana  
Corner bracing at sill logs.







Photograph 15  
U.S. Commissioner's Court  
South Elevation.

Photograph 16  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
West Elevation.



Photograph 17  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
North Elevation.

Photograph 18  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
East Elevation.





Photograph 19  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Junction of the ceiling timbers,  
butting pole, eave log and  
plate log w/newer roof above  
ceiling members





Photograph 20  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
V-notched log corner; showing  
junction of addition logs and  
newer roof.



Photograph 21  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Ceiling & North wall, showing split-  
log ceiling members and peeled  
purlines & ridge beam.



Photograph 22  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Window in East wall - logs hewn to  
receive flat trim pieces.



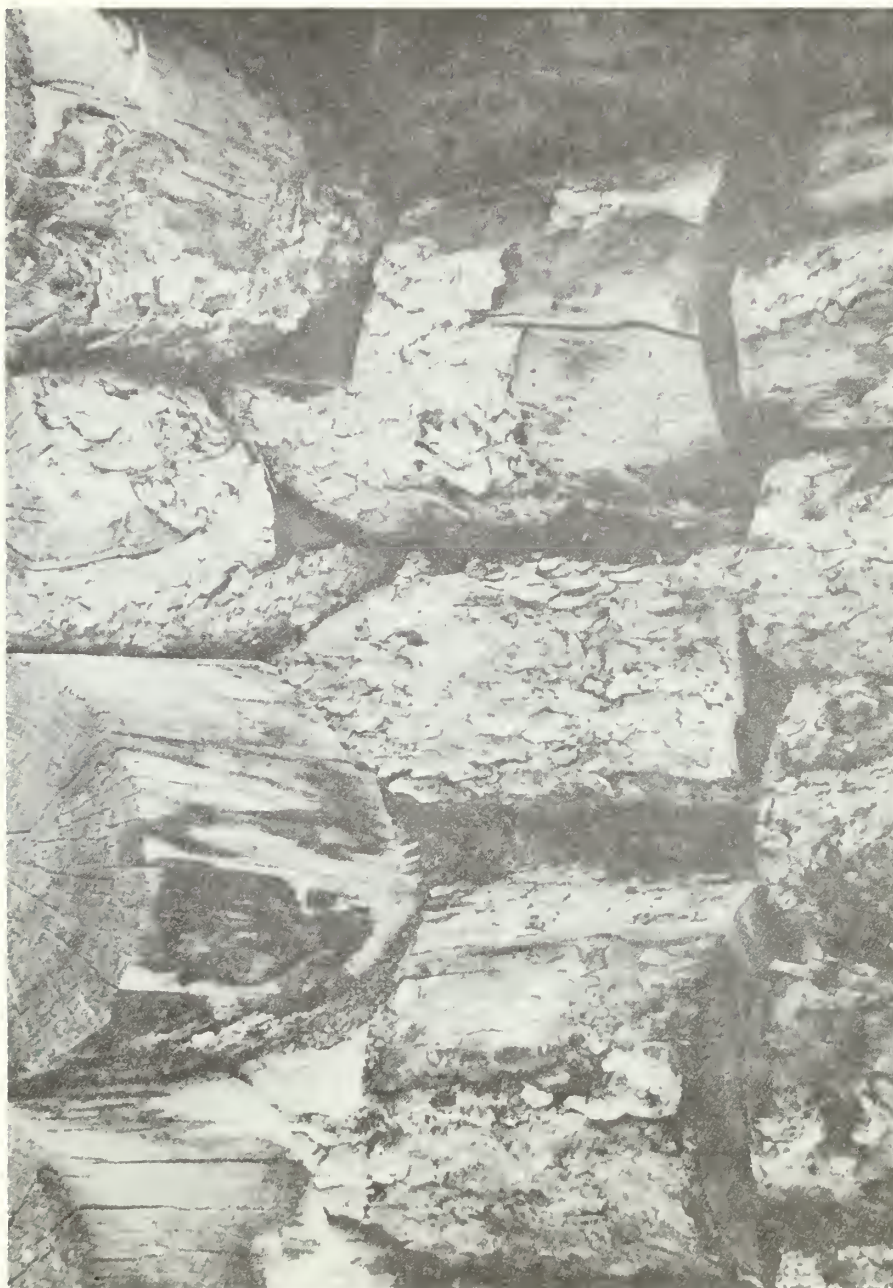




Photograph 23  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Front entry to main cabin with hewn  
logs at trim; trim missing on  
right side.



Photograph 24  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Junction of main cabin logs and  
porch logs (spline just visible  
between second and third porch logs  
on right)



Photograph 25  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Hudson Bay corner at front of porch,  
post dropping away from eave log.







Photograph 26  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Detail of Hudson Bay corner and  
splines from interior of porch.



Photograph 27  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Southwest corner of addition



Photograph 28  
U.S. Commissioner's Court, Chisana  
Junction of sill log and Hudson  
Bay corner post.

Photograph 29  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Southwest oblique.







Photograph 30  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
South Elevation.

Photograph 31  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
West Elevation.



Photograph 32  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
North Elevation.

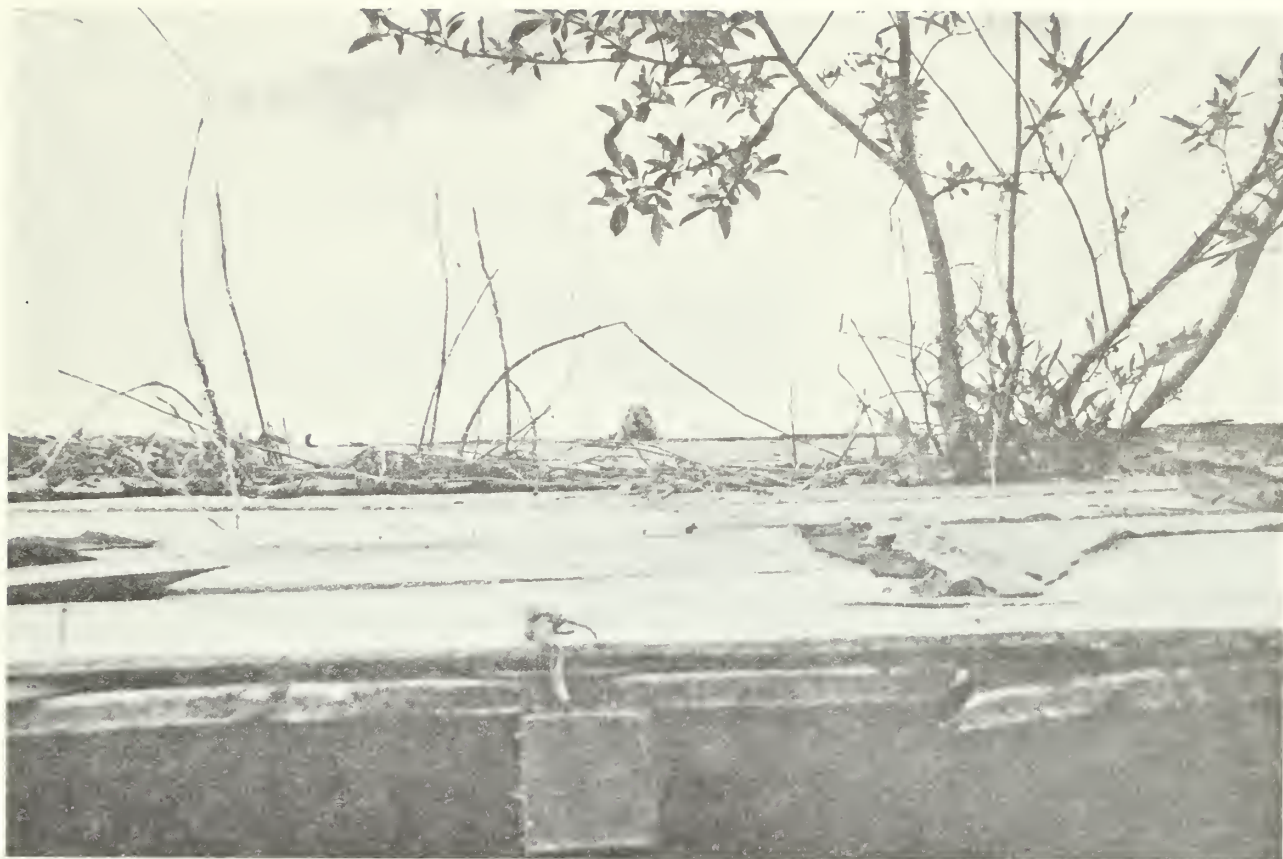
Photograph 33  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
East Elevation.



Photograph 34  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Roof detail with vegetation and  
present occupant.

Photograph 35  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Eave detail with newer roof over decaying  
ceiling members (note sag in roof line).







Photograph 36

U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Collar log connecting extended purlins  
(note 8" overhang of rewer roof).



Photograph 37  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Newer roof extension over entry on south  
side supported by purlins and ridge board.



Photograph 38  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Canvas covering ceiling, looped around  
purlins and ridge beam.





Photograph 39  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Interior of entry to main cabin - note  
water stained burlap and seperating window  
trim.



Photograph 40  
U.S. Commissioner's residence, Chisana  
Junction of main cabin logs (right)  
and porch logs.



Photograph 41  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Hudson Bay post at southeast corner of porch.





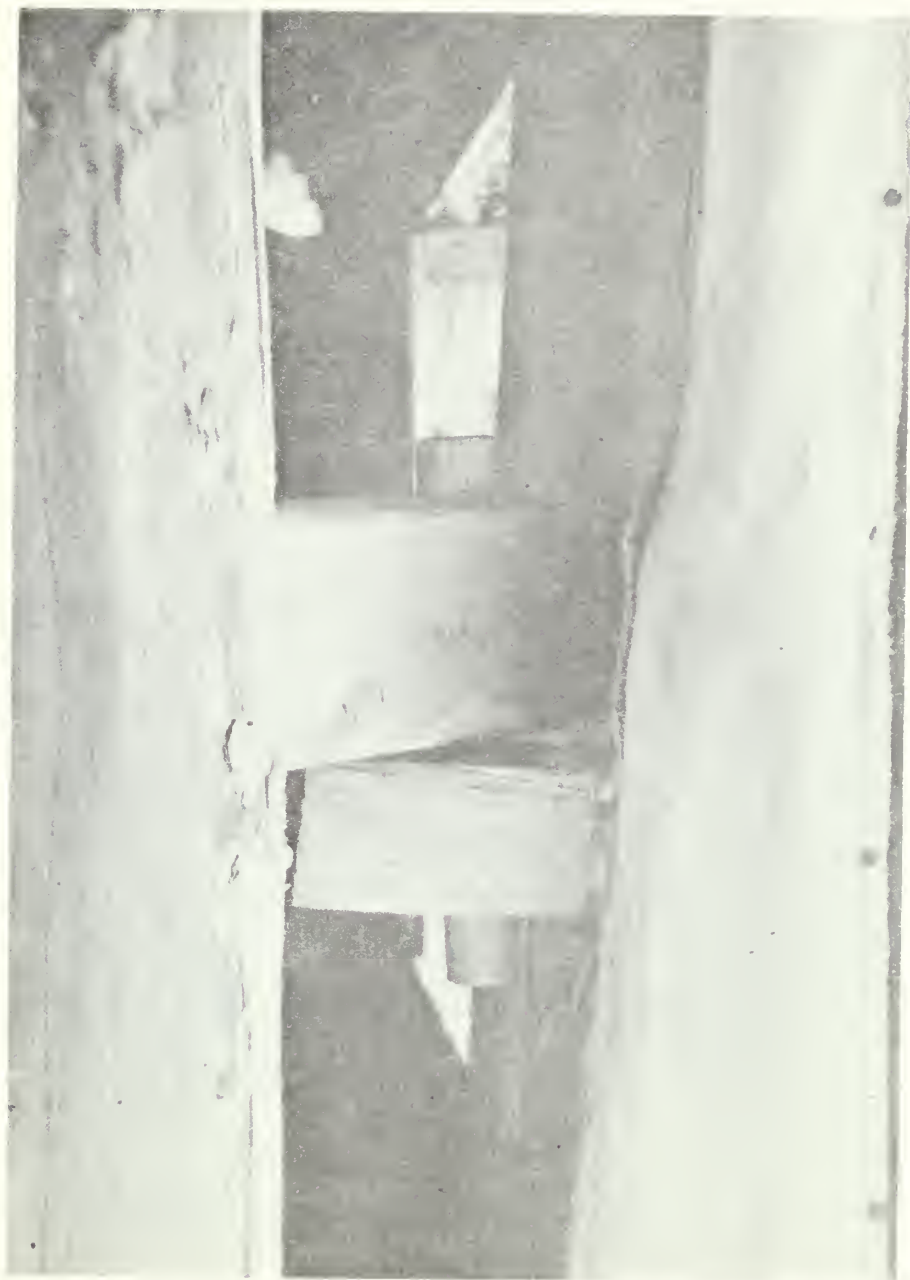
Photograph 42

U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana

Front window with racked frame and  
seperating trim (note pegs nolding trim  
in place).



Photograph 43  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
Detail of wooden hinge on porch door.



Photograph 44  
U.S. Commissioner's Residence, Chisana  
South end with frame for gravel berming  
around walls.



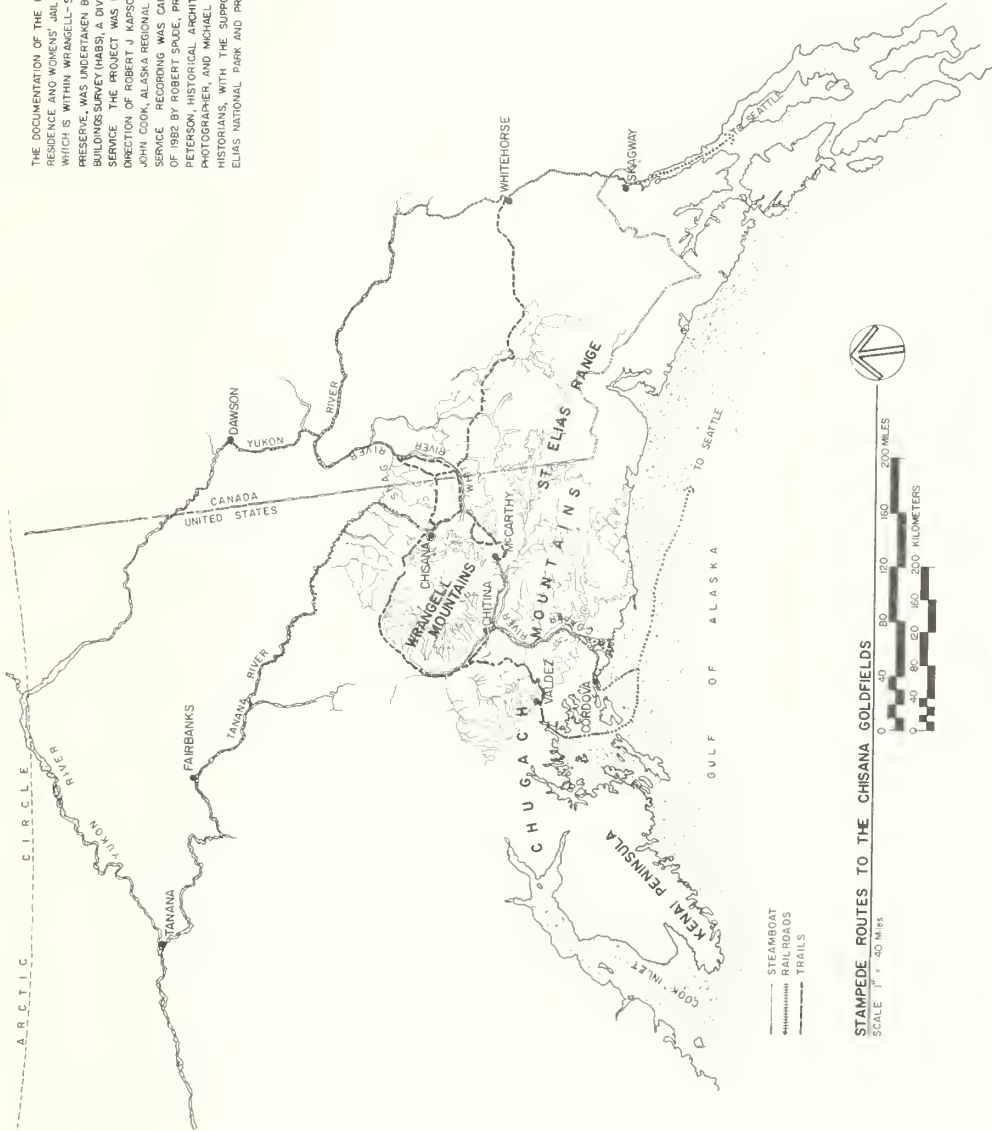




## E. Existing Conditions H.A.B.S. Drawings



# CHISANA



THE DOCUMENTATION OF THE U.S. COMMISSIONER'S COURT, RESIDENCE AND WOMEN'S JAIL IN CHISANA HISTORIC DISTRICT, WHICH IS WITHIN WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE, WAS UNDERTAKEN BY THE HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY (HABS), A DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. THE PROJECT WAS EXECUTED UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF ROBERT J. KARSCH, CHIEF OF HABS/HAEI, AND JOHN COOK, ALASKA REGIONAL DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. RECORDING WAS CARRIED OUT DURING THE SUMMER OF 1982 BY ROBERT SPODE, PROJECT DIRECTOR, STEVEN PETERSON, HISTORICAL ARCHITECT, JOHN LOWE III, PHOTOGRAPHER, AND MICHAEL LAPPEN AND DANIEL TAYLOR, HISTORIANS, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE STAFF.

DURING THE FINAL YEARS OF THE ALASKA GOLD RUSH, PETER "NORTH POLE" NELSON AND BILLY JAMES DISCOVERED GOLD ON BONAZA CREEK, SEVEN MILES EAST OF CHISANA. THIS DISCOVERY IN THE SPRING OF 1893 SPURRED NEARLY 5000 SOODROUGHS TO STAMPEDE INTO THE WRANGELL MOUNTAINS REGION AND TO DEVELOP THE SETTLEMENT OF CHISANA WHICH BECAME THE REGIONAL COMMERCIAL AND SOCIAL CENTER. TONY DIMOND, A VALDEZ LAWYER AND MINER, WAS APPOINTED CHISANA'S FIRST U.S. COMMISSIONER. GOVERNMENTAL PROPERTY COMPRISED THE COMMISSIONER'S HOME, THE COURTHOUSE AND THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S JAILS. THE LATTER UNUSUAL IN ALASKA IN 1913, THESE BUILDINGS REFLECT THE INTRODUCTION OF AMERICAN LAW AND ORDER IN EARLY FRONTIER SETTINGS.

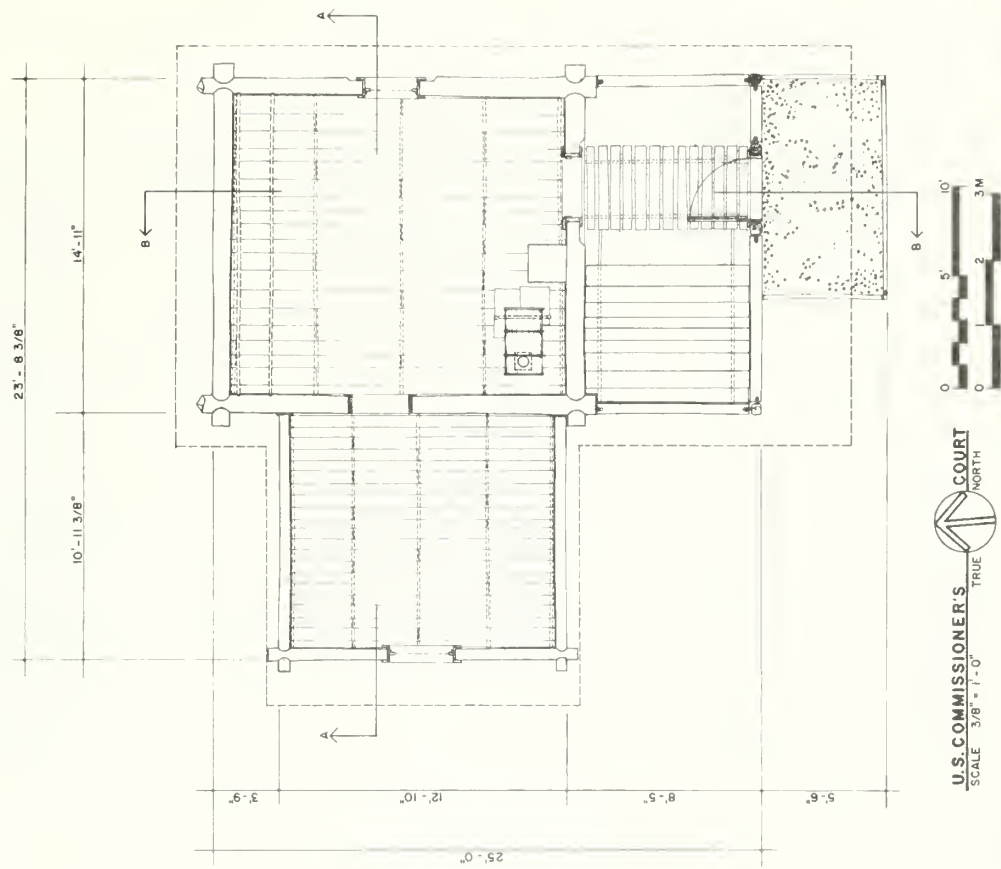


DESIGNED BY STEVEN M. PETERSON, 1982  
NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND BUILDINGS RECORD  
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE  
CHISANA

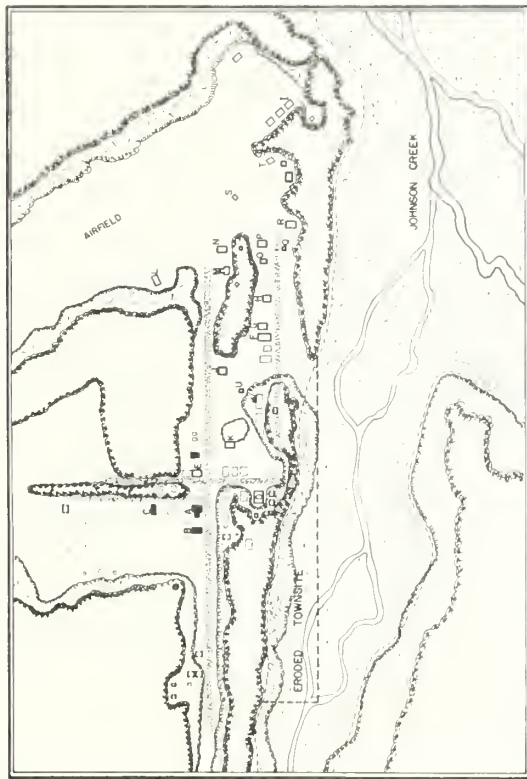
NUMBER: 9  
SHEET: 1 OF 8 SHEETS  
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY







U.S. COMMISSIONER'S COURT  
SCALE 3/8" = 1'-0"  
TRUE NORTH



CHISANA SITE PLAN  
SCALE 1" = 200'

- LEGEND
- A U.S. COMMISSIONER'S COURT
  - B U.S. COMMISSIONER'S RESIDENCE
  - C WOMEN'S JAIL
  - D SALOON
  - E EARL HERST CABIN
  - F OLD POST OFFICE
  - G CACHE
  - H BLACKSMITH'S SHOP
  - I FIRST N.P. NELSON CABIN
  - J TOO MUCH JOHNSON CABIN
  - K LEW'S BARN AND CORRAL
  - L SECOND N.P. NELSON CABIN
  - M RAY McNUTT - UNFINISHED CABIN
  - N RAY McNUTT - STORAGE SHED
  - O RAY McNUTT - OLD CACHE
  - P RAY McNUTT - COOKHOUSE
  - Q RAY McNUTT - STORAGE SHED
  - R RAY McNUTT - GARAGE
  - S RAY McNUTT - MAIL CABIN
  - T RAY McNUTT - RESIDENCE
  - U SMOKEHOUSE
  - V MEAT CACHE



WRS1

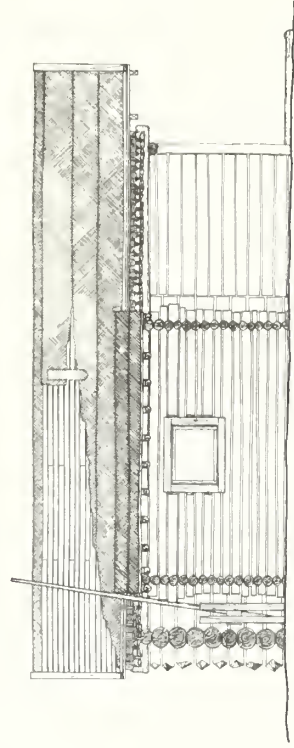
CHISANA  
 U.S. COMMISSIONER'S COURT

ALASKA

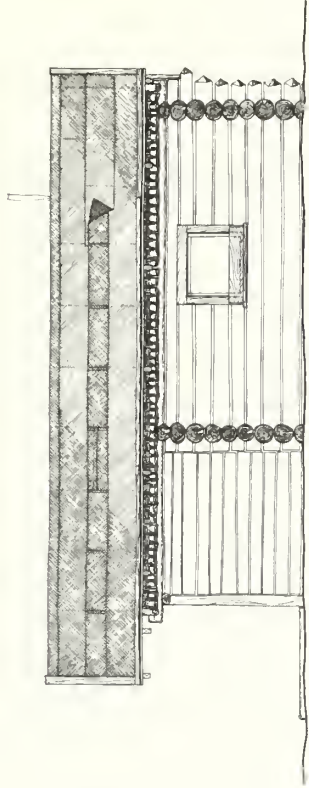
AK-9A

BUREAU NO.  
 HISTORIC AMERICAN  
 BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 3 OF 8 SHEETS

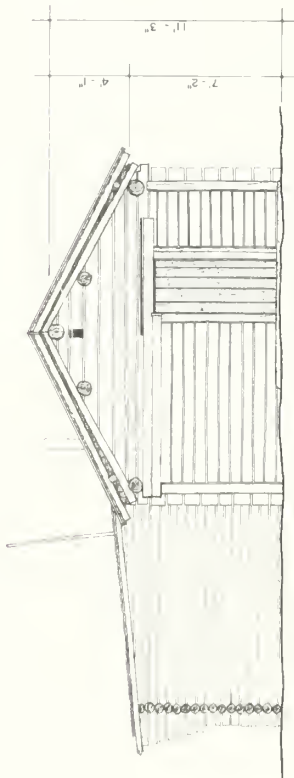
WEST ELEVATION



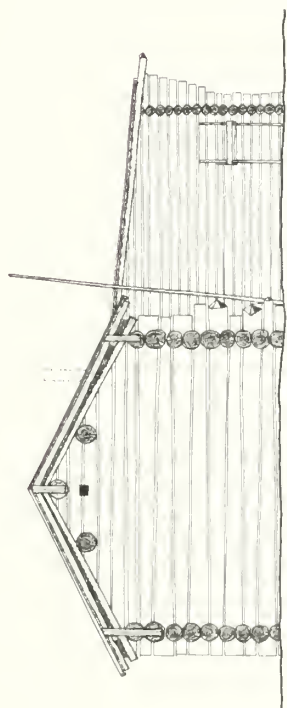
EAST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION  
 SCALE = 3/8" = 1'-0"





**MATERIAL NOTES:**  
**ORIGINAL BUILDING:**  
 WALLS- 9" TO 11" LOGS, UNPEELED WITH "V" NOTCH AT THE CORNERS. INTERIOR SURFACES  
 HEAVY TO FACILITATE DRYING WHEN CONSTRUCTED. INTERIOR DOOR AND WINDOW  
 TRIM PAINTED DARK EMERALD GREEN. NO INDICATION OF INTERIOR WALL COVERING.  
 FLOOR - 1 1/4" X RANDOM WIDTH (7 1/2" TO 10") ROUGH SAWN SPRUCE PLANKING NAILED TO  
 LOG STRINGERS. ALSO 5" OF SOD ON CENTER. STRINGERS LOCATED ON GRADE. NO RECORD  
 OF INTERIOR FLOOR COVERING.  
 ROOF - AS INDICATED ON DRAWINGS.

**FRONT ADDITION:**  
 WALLS- 5 1/2" LOGS, UNPEELED WITH HUDSON BAY CORNERS CHINKED WITH MOSS, IN-  
 TERIOR SURFACE HEAVY, NO COVERINGS.  
 FLOOR - 1 1/4" X RANDOM WIDTH (7 1/2" TO 10") ROUGH SAWN SPRUCE PLANKING NAILED TO  
 LOG STRINGERS. ALSO 5" OF SOD ON CENTER. STRINGERS LOCATED ON GRADE. NO RECORD  
 OF INTERIOR FLOOR COVERING.  
 ROOF - AS INDICATED ON DRAWINGS.

**WEST ADDITION:**  
 WALLS- 5" PEELLED LOGS, SADDLE NOTCHED CORNERS, CHINKED WITH MOSS, NO INTERIOR  
 COVERINGS.  
 FLOOR - 1 1/4" X RANDOM WIDTH (6" AVERAGE) ROUGH SAWN PLANKING ON LOG STRINGERS.  
 AT 3'0" ON CENTER. THE STRINGERS REST ON GRADE. NO OTHER FLOOR  
 COVERINGS ARE EVIDENT.  
 ROOF - 5" LOG RAFTERS AT 1'4" ON CENTER, COVERED WITH RANDOM WIDTH, ROUGH  
 SAWN SPRUCE PLANKING COVERED WITH TWO LAYERS OF ROLLED ROOFING. SOD  
 ADDED ON TOP FOR INSULATION PURPOSES.

**NOTE:** THE 5" LOG ADDITION WAS  
 CONSTRUCTED AFTER THE MAIN CABIN  
 SECOND ROOF OVER THE MAIN CABIN  
 WAS ALSO ADDED AT THAT TIME

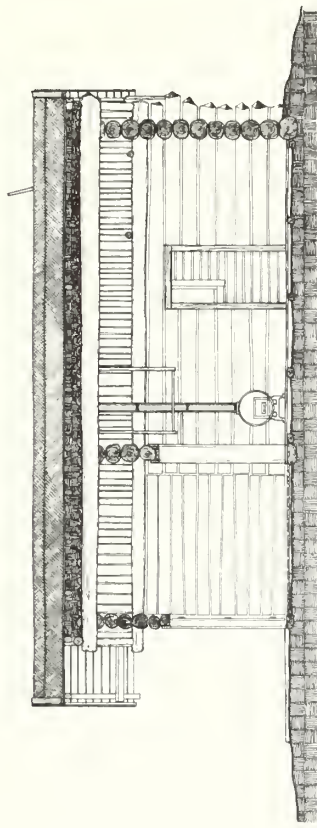
BLACK, 2 PLY ROLLED ROOFING  
 OVER RANDOM WIDTH PLANKING  
 5" LOG RAFTERS AT 2'4" O.C.

5" AVERAGE LOG DIAMETER  
 PINNED WITH STEEL SPIKES

**SECTION A-A**  
 SCALE 3/8" = 1'-0"

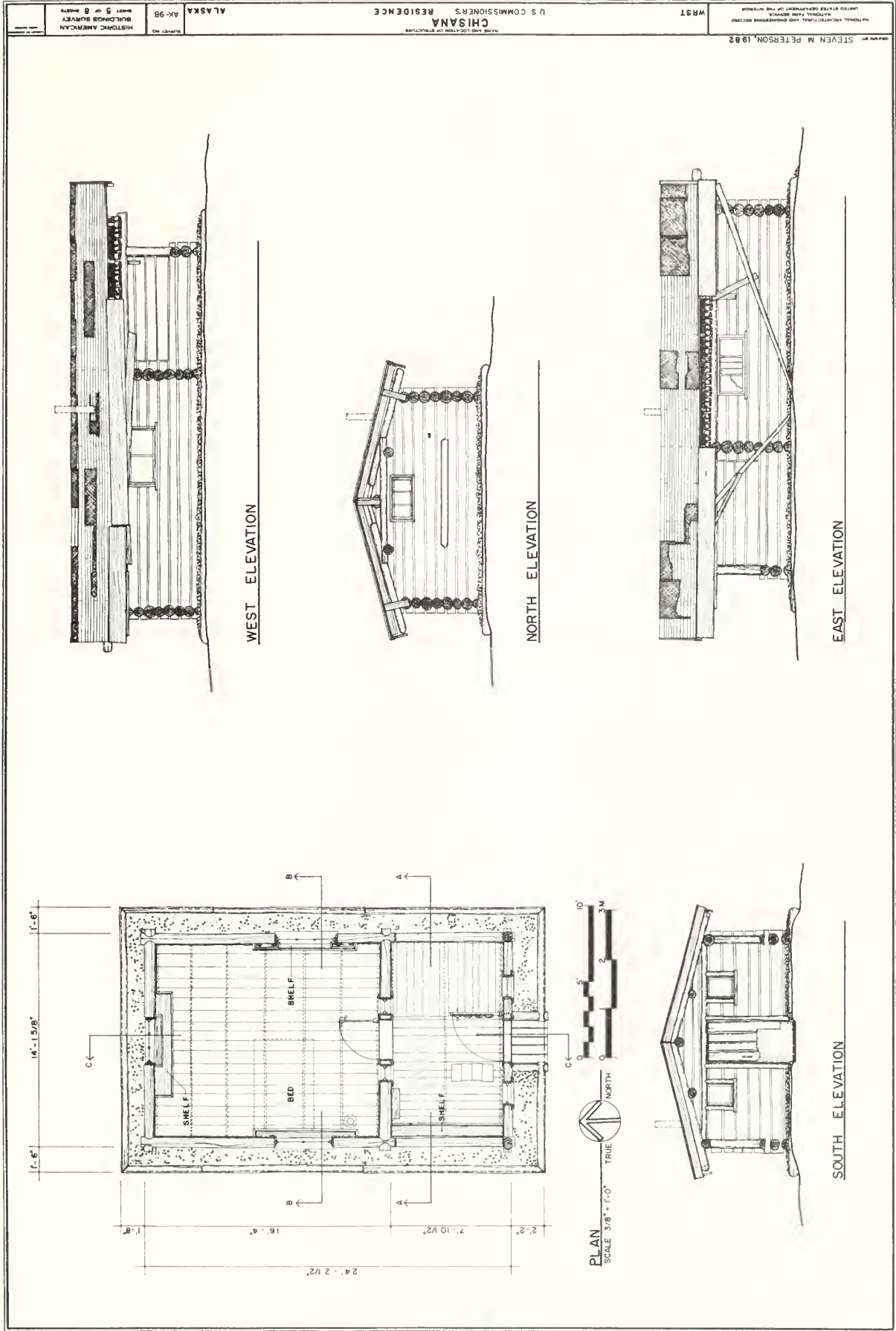
BLACK, 2 PLY ROLLED ROOFING  
 OVER RANDOM WIDTH PLANK ROOF  
 1" X RANDOM WIDTH PLANK PURLINS  
 8" TO 12" LOG PURLINS  
 2 1/2" x 4" RAFTERS AT 3'5" O.C.  
 ROUGH MILLED SPRUCE FRAMING  
 (NOT ORIGINAL)  
 5" OF SOD/MOSS INSULATION  
 OVER 3 TO 6" SPLIT LOG  
 CEILING  
 CHINKED WITH SOD/MOSS  
 9 TO 11" LOGS, UNPEELED  
 WITH "V" NOTCHED CORNERS  
 AND PEGGED WITH WOODEN  
 DOWELS

**SECTION B-B**



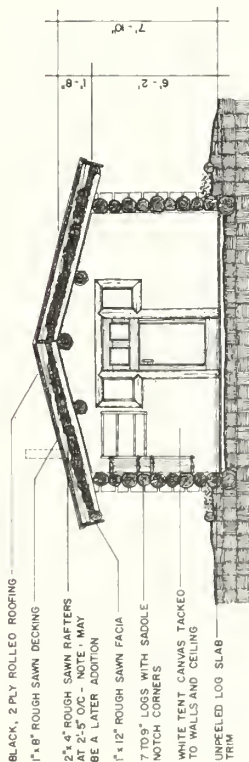




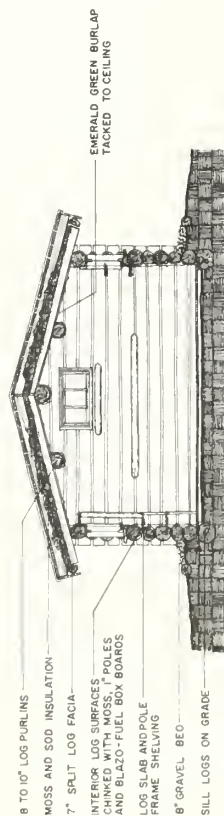




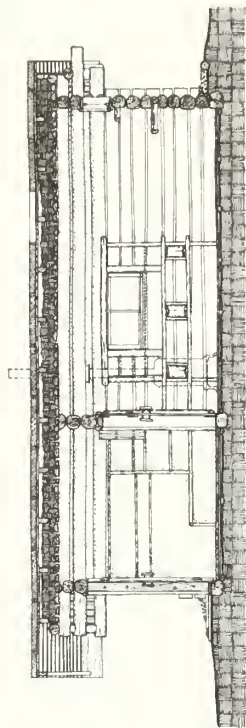
**MATERIAL NOTES**  
**MAIN CABIN.**  
LOGS - 7" TO 9" UNPEELED LOGS, INTERIOR FACE HEWN TO FACILITATE DRYING WHEN CONSTRUCTED. LOGS ARE ORNAMENTED WITH 1/2" STICK POLES, PARTS FROM BLAZO WOODEN FUEL BOXES, AND BURNED LOGS. INTERIOR SURFACE IS COVERED WITH A SADDLE NOTCH.  
WALLS - 7" TO 9" UNPEELED LOGS, INTERIOR FACE HEWN TO FACILITATE DRYING WHEN CONSTRUCTED. LOGS ARE ORNAMENTED WITH 1/2" STICK POLES, PARTS FROM BLAZO WOODEN FUEL BOXES, AND BURNED LOGS. INTERIOR SURFACE IS COVERED WITH A SADDLE NOTCH.  
FLOOR - 1" X RANDOM WOOD (7" TO 9") ROUGH SAWN PLANKING WHICH IS NAILED TO WOODEN STRINGERS (AT 2'-6" ON CENTER) THAT REST ON GRADE. NO EVIDENCE OF ANY FLOOR COVERING.  
CEILING - SAWN SLAB CEILING, RESTS ON 9" BURNED LOG BURLINS. THE CEILING AND BURLINS ARE COVERED WITH DARK GREEN BURLAP MOSS AND SOD ON TOP OF CEILING. PROVIDES 5" OF INSULATION. IN LATER YEARS A NEW ROOF WITH 2" X 5" RAFTERS, 1" X 8" ROUGH SAWN PLANKING AND A ONE-PLY ROLLED ROOF COVERING WERE ADDED.  
**FRONT ENTRY.**  
WALLS - 7" TO 9" UNPEELED LOGS FOR BOTTOM THREE LOGS. TOP LOGS ARE HEWN TO SERVED AS AN OPEN PORCH.  
HUDSON BAY CORNER CONSTRUCTION INDICATES THAT THE FRONT ENTRY ORIGINALLY SERVED AS AN OPEN PORCH.  
INTERIOR SURFACE HAS BEEN HEWN FLAT TO FACILITATE DRYING AND COVERED WITH A HEAVY WEIGHT WHITE CANVAS COVERING.  
FLOOR - 1" X RANDOM WOOD (7" AVERAGE) ROUGH SAWN PLANKING. A SECOND SURFACE OF SIMILAR PLANKING HAS BEEN ADDED ON THE EAST 1/2 OF THE ENTRY FLOOR. NO EVIDENCE OF ANY FLOOR COVERING.  
CEILING - SAME CONSTRUCTION AS IN MAIN CABIN. INTERIOR SURFACE COVERED WITH WHITE CANVAS.



SECTION A - A  
SCALE 3/8" = 1'-0"

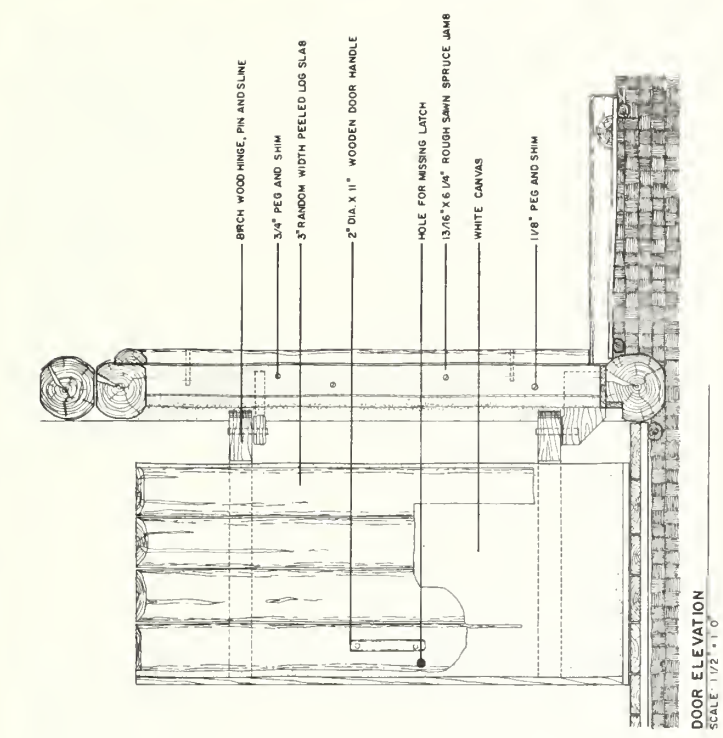


SECTION B - B

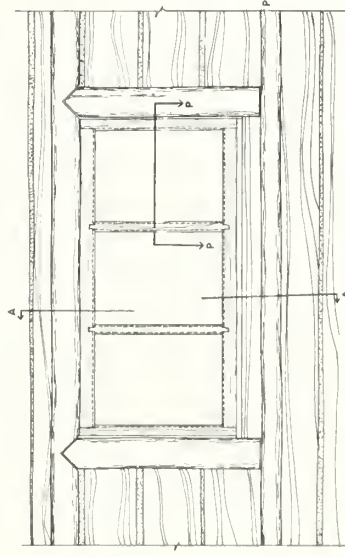


SECTION C - C

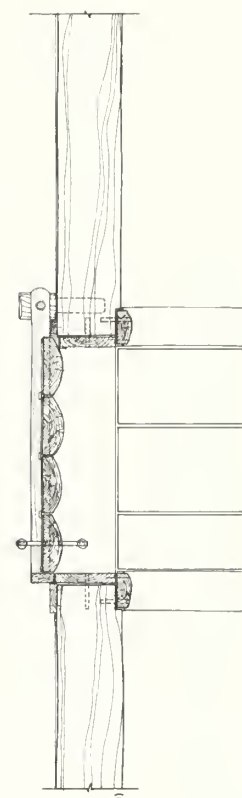




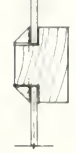
DOOR ELEVATION  
 SCALE: 1 1/2" = 1'-0"



WINDOW ELEVATION  
 SCALE: 1 1/2" = 1'-0"



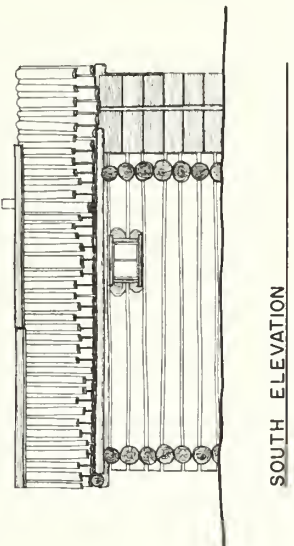
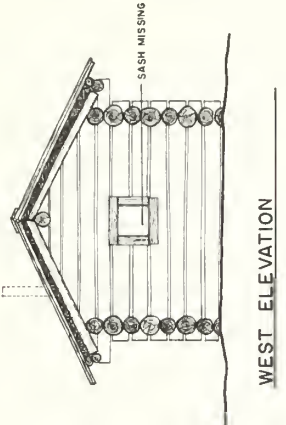
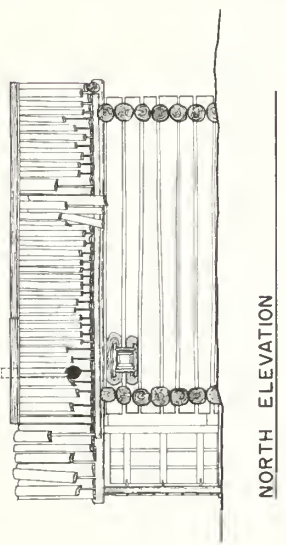
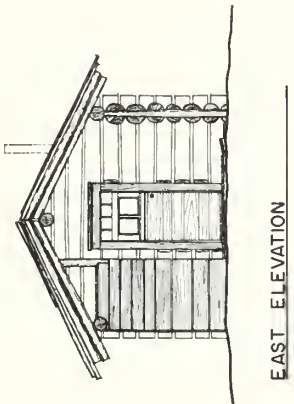
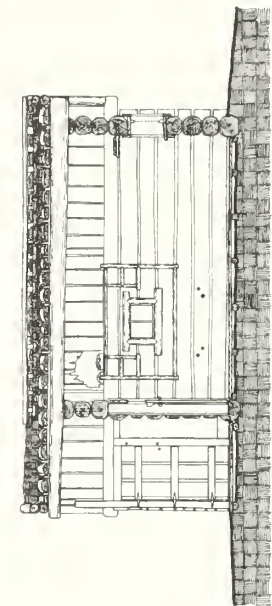
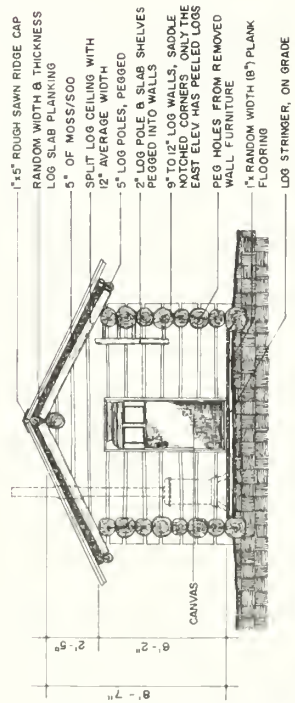
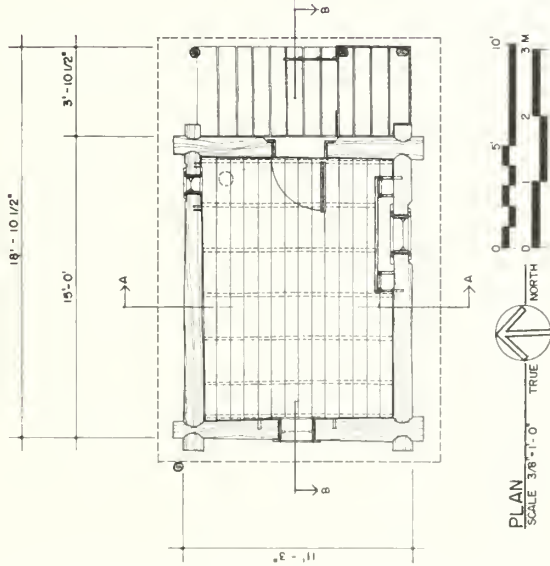
SECTION—DOORWAY  
 SCALE: 1 1/2" = 1'-0"



WINDOW SECTION  
 FULL SCALE



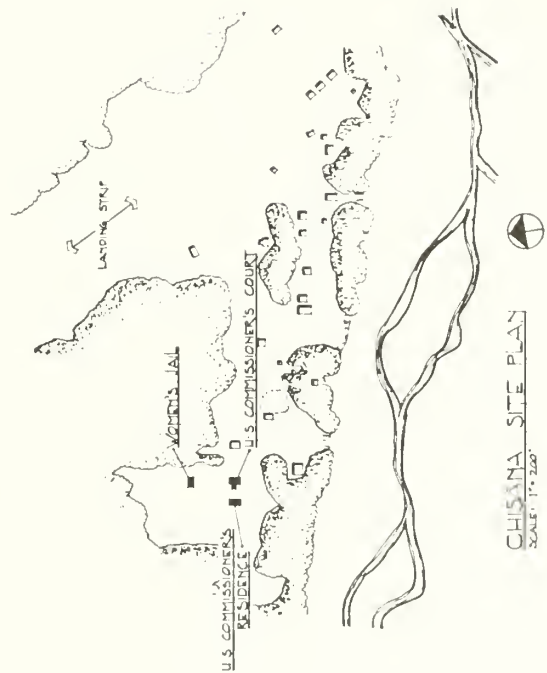






## F: Recommended Treatments Drawings





## ABBREVIATIONS

3	APPROXIMATE	MAX	MAXIMUM
4	AVERAGE	MIN	MINIMUM
5	BEARING	NO	NUMBER
6	BUILDING	NTS	NOT TO SCALE
7	CENTER LINE	CC	ON CENTER
8	CELLING	PCS	PRESSURE
9	DOOR	PT	PRESSURE TREATED
10	DRAINING	R/L	RIGHT HAND
11	EACH	R/M	ROOM
12	ELEVATION	R/O	ROUGH OUTLINE
13	EXISTING	R/S	RAILROAD
14	EXT	R/W	ROUGH WORK
15	FOUNDATION	S	SECTION WITH
16	FINISH FLOOR	SIC	SECTION
17	FISH	SUITS	SUITS
18	FLOOR	T&G	TORN & GONE
19	GUARANTEED	TR	TREATED
20	INSULATION	TR	TYPICAL

1. NAME AND REMARKS 2. OFFICE 3. DATE	TITLE OF MATTER  CHISANA WOMEN'S JAIL U.S. COMMISSIONERS COURT U.S. COMMISSIONERS RESIDENCE	DRAWING NO. 30 BOARD	SHEET 1 OF 3
--	--	----------------------------	--------------------

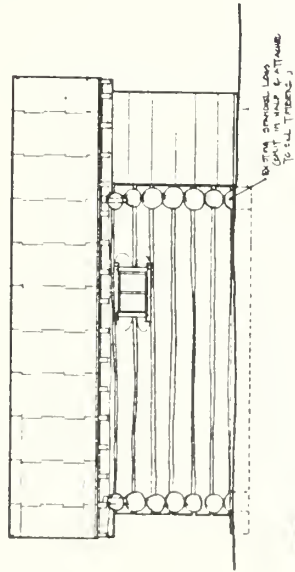
CHISANA

WOMEN'S JAIL  
U.S. COMMISSIONERS COURT  
U.S. COMMISSIONERS RES. BLDG.

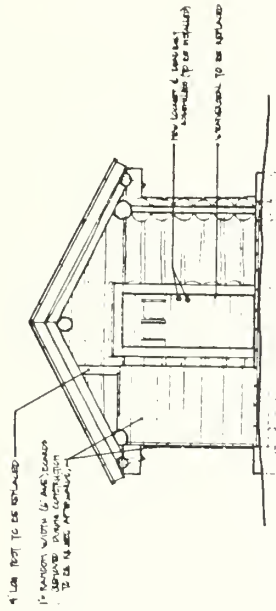
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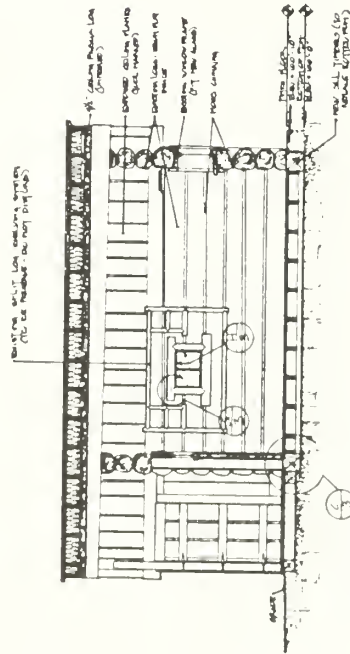




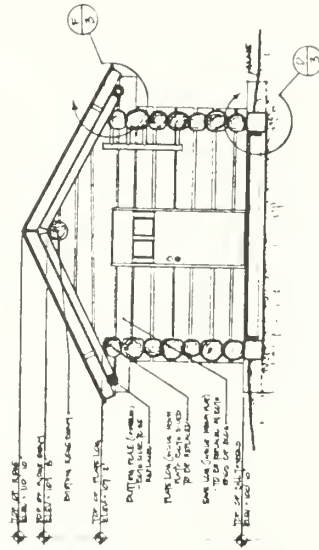
**A SOUTH ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"



**B EAST ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"

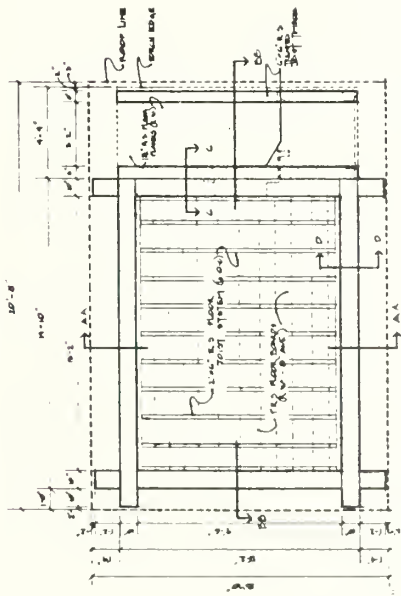


**B-B SECTION B-B**  
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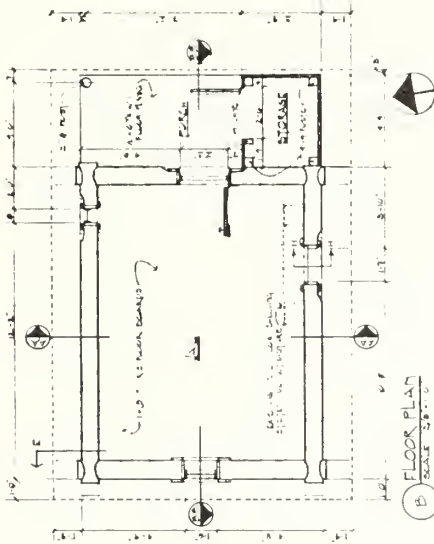


**A-A SECTION A-A**  
SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"

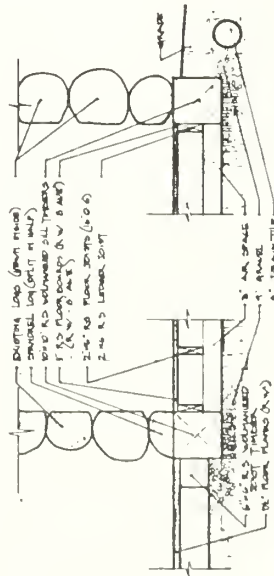




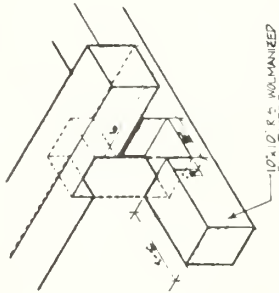
A FOUNDATION PLAN  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



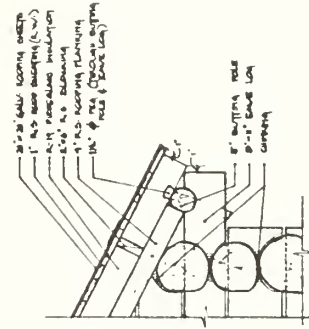
B FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"



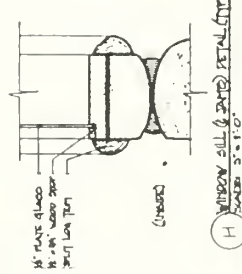
C FOUNDATION DETAIL C  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



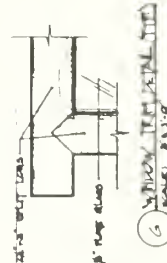
E FOUNDATION CORNER (ISOMETRIC)  
NOT TO SCALE



F EAVE DETAIL  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



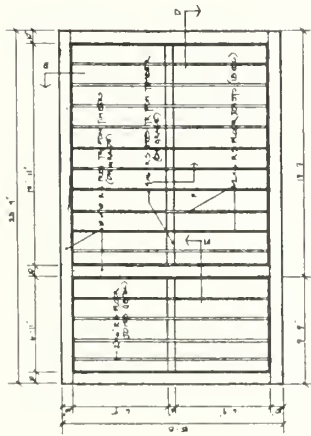
H WINDOW SILL & SILL DETAIL  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



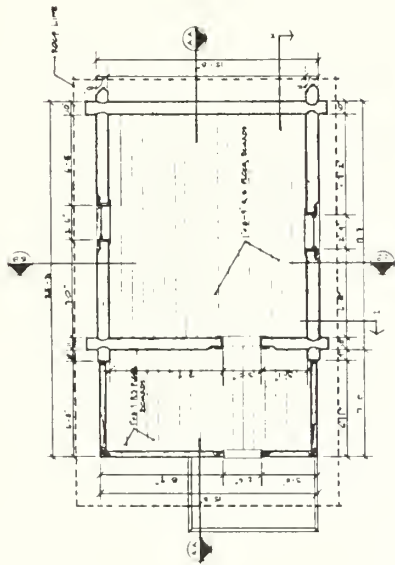
G WINDOW TRIM DETAIL  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

DESIGNER S. H. HARRIS	TITLE OF SHEET WOMEN'S JAIL	DRAWING NO. 110
CHECKED P. J. HARRIS		
DATE 3 JUL 1960		
	PLAN & DETAILS	SHEET 3 OF 3

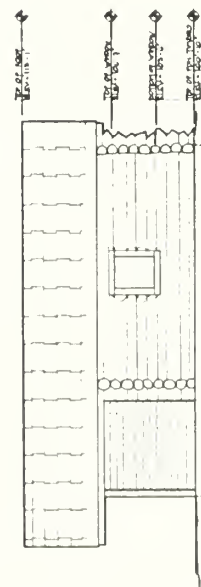




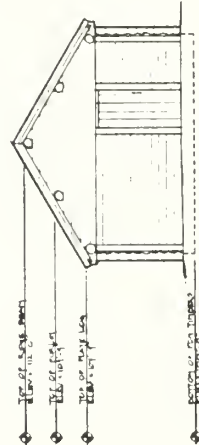
A FOUNDATION & FLOOR FRAMING PLAN  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



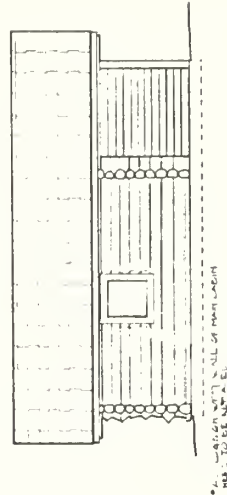
B FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



C EAST ELEVATION  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



D SOUTH ELEVATION  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



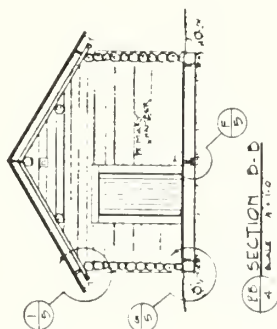
E WEST ELEVATION  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

DESIGNED BY	DATE
DRAWN BY	DATE
CHECKED BY	DATE
IN CHARGE	DATE
PROJECT NO.	DATE
SHEET NO.	DATE
TOTAL SHEETS	DATE

U.S. COMMISSIONER'S COURT  
ALTERNATIVE  
"A"  
PLANS & ELEVATIONS

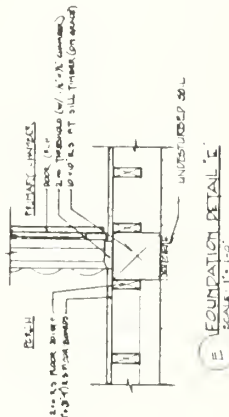






AA SECTION A-A  
DATE 1/4.10

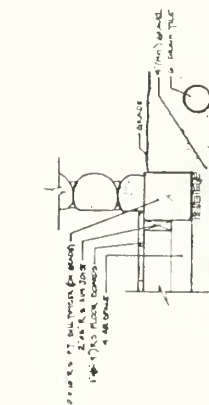
4 SECTION D-D A=1.0



FOUNDATION DETAIL "D"

FOUNDATION DETAIL 'E'

FOUNDATION DETAIL 'F'

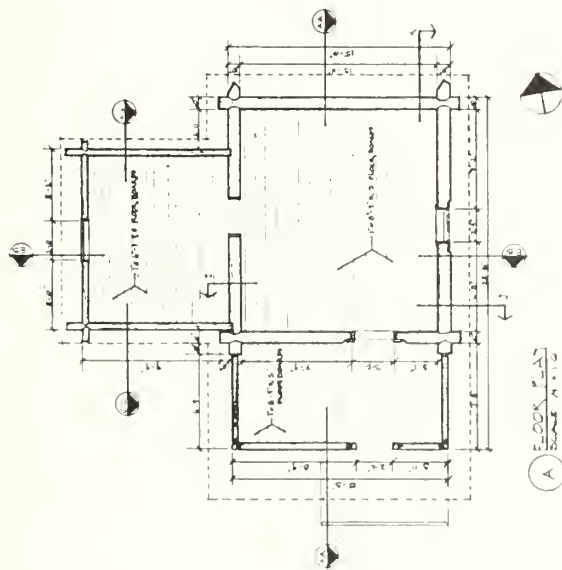


H ROOFING DETAIL 'H'  
Scale: 1" = 1'-0"

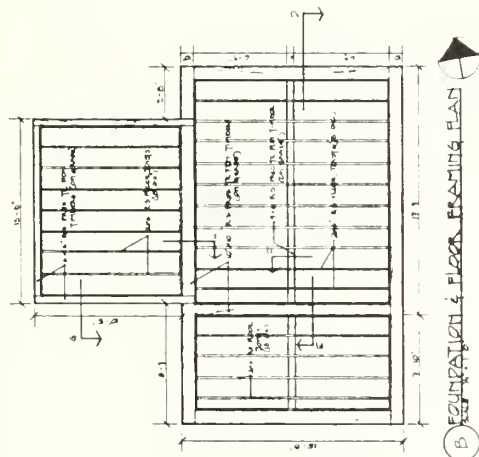
6. FOUNDATION DETAIL'S  
SCALE: 1" = 1' 0"

ROOFING DETAIL "I"

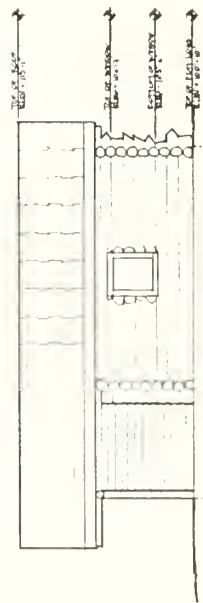




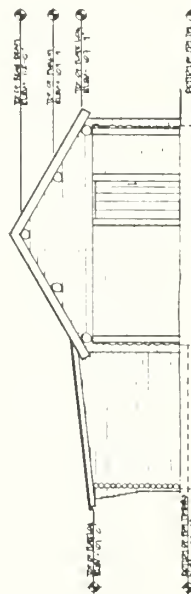
1 FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



2 FOUNDATION & FLOOR FRAMING PLAN  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



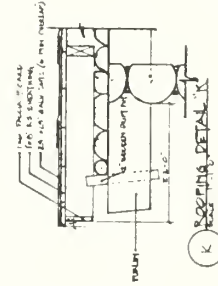
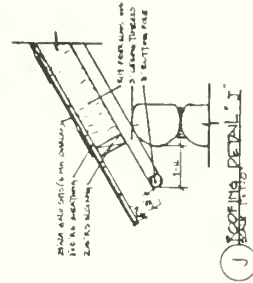
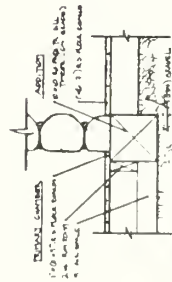
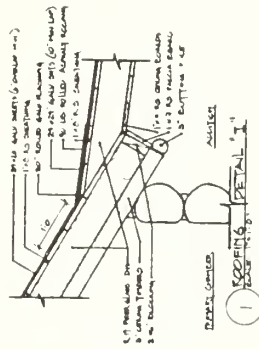
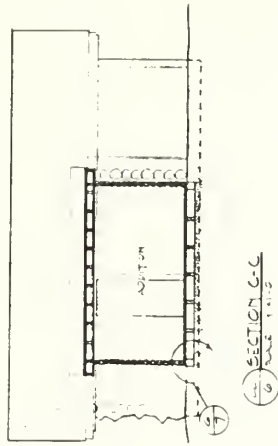
3 EAST ELEVATION  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



4 SOUTH ELEVATION  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

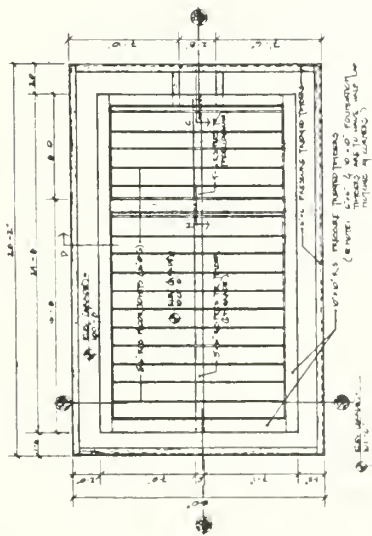
DESIGNED BY J. J. J. J.	TITLE OF SHEET US COMMISSIONERS COURT ALTERNATIVE "B"	DRAWING NO. 10000
CHECKED BY J. J. J. J.	PLANS & ELEVATIONS	SHEET 6
DATE JULY 1988		OF 1



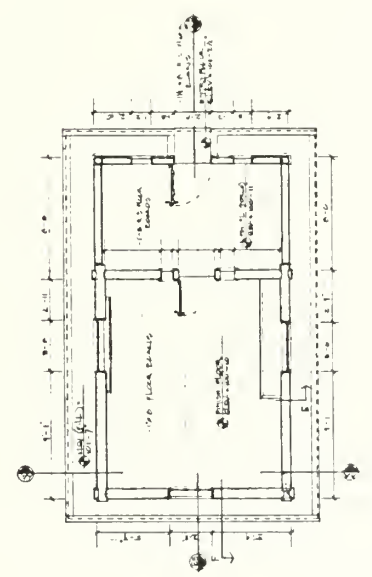




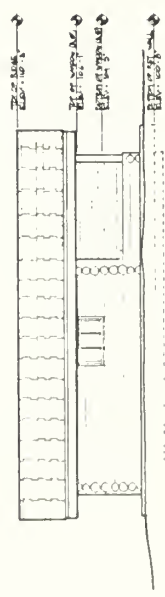




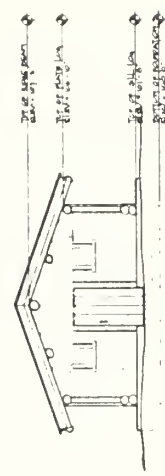
A) FOUNDATION PLAN  
SCALE 1/4\"/>



D) FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE 1/4\"/>



C) WEST ELEVATION  
SCALE 1/4\"/>

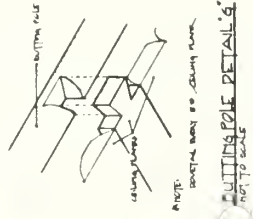
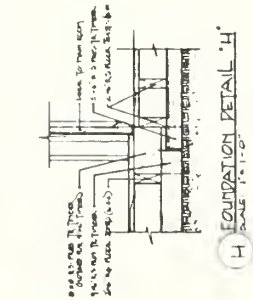
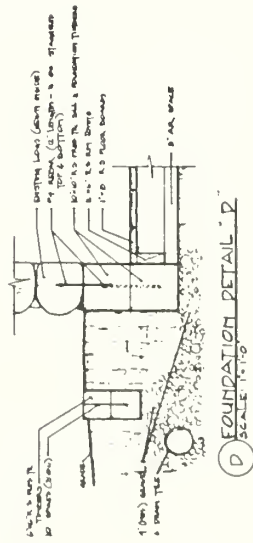
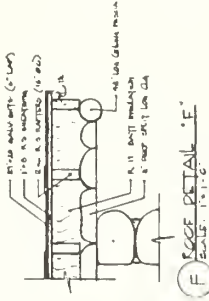
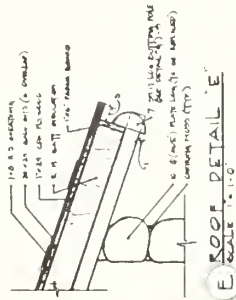
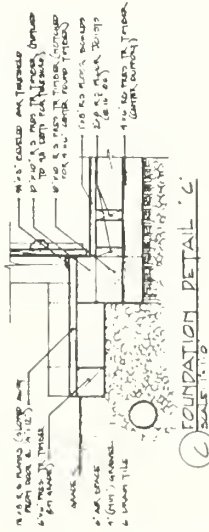
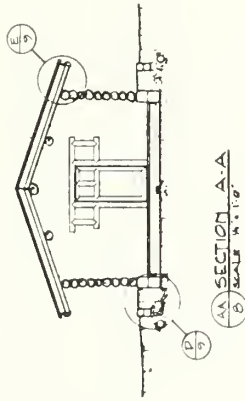
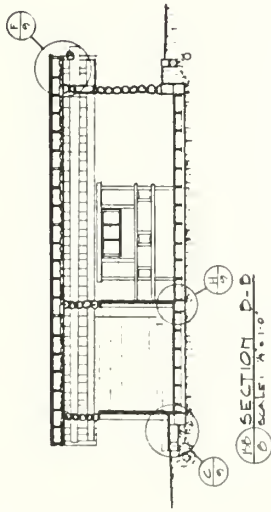


D) SOUTH ELEVATION  
SCALE 1/4\"/>

REVISIONS	TITLE OF SHEET	DRAWING NO.
1. APPROVED FOR CONSTRUCTION	D. S. COMMISSIONERS RESIDENCE	NO. 1000
2. APPROVED FOR CONSTRUCTION		SHEET
3. APPROVED FOR CONSTRUCTION		D
4. APPROVED FOR CONSTRUCTION		OF 2

PLANS & ELEVATIONS





PREPARED BY ARCHITECT DATE	DATE OF SET 11/2/2022	PROJECT NO. 102
DESIGNED BY ARCHITECT DATE	DATE OF SET 11/2/2022	PROJECT NO. 102
CHECKED BY ARCHITECT DATE	DATE OF SET 11/2/2022	PROJECT NO. 102
DATE	DATE OF SET 11/2/2022	PROJECT NO. 102

U.S. COMMISSIONER'S  
RESIDENCE

SECTIONS & DETAILS



## III. APPENDIX





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Chisana Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

Shushana, Chathanda City or Johnson City

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

An irregular cluster of structures extending westward approximately one fourth mile from the southeast end of the Chisana airstrip and parallel to Johnson Creek.

CITY, TOWN

Chisana

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Alaska

VICINITY OF  
CODE

02

COUNTY

Southeast Fairbanks Div. 240

CODE

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☒ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☐ PRIVATE  
☒ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☒ UNOCCUPIED  
☒ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☐ YES, RESTRICTED  
☒ YES, UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE  
☒ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☒ PARK  
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable)

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 29

CITY, TOWN

Glennallen

VICINITY OF

Alaska

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Magistrate's Office

STREET & NUMBER

State Office Building

CITY, TOWN

Fairbanks

STATE

Alaska

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Alaska Heritage Resource Survey

DATE

1978

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of History and Archeology, State Parks

CITY, TOWN

Anchorage

STATE

Alaska

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Chisana historic district comprises 20 historically significant log structures. Most of the structures date from the winter of 1913-14, others from the post-1930 period when the airstrip was built and gold market prices jumped from \$20/ounce to \$32/ounce, and the post-1950 period and the growth of hunting guide service companies. The log structures reflect interior Alaska and Yukon Territory building practices with their extended roof beams and porches. Some log cabins have built-up berms which keep cold air from seeping inside. The extreme temperatures of 50 degrees below or more required other heat saving techniques in chinking, chimney and stove placement, and outhouses.

The gold rush era log cabins retain their integrity, though most are being used for guide service functions or as summer residences. Changes include metal roofs (from blazo cans to aluminum and tar) instead of sod, new foundations (one of cement) instead of bare logs on tundra, and metalbestos stove pipe. Wood heat is still used, but small solar cells power batteries for lights and radios. Chisana is without electricity, telephone, sewage, or water works. The airstrip and a difficult pack horse trail are the town's link to the nearest town. Thus any introduction of non-indigenous materials is costly. All structures within the Chisana historic district are built of local timber.

### BUILDINGS AND SITES CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT (see map):

- A. U.S. Commissioner's Court: ca. 1913-14, log cabin, one-story, gabled roof. In fair condition. ca. 1960 small addition to west wall and wood plank roof added. Vacant.
- B. U.S. Commissioner's Residence: ca. 1913-14, log cabin, one-story, gabled roof. In fair condition. ca. 1960s wood plank roof added. Vacant.
- C. Women's Jail: ca. 1913-14, log cabin with a porch facing east and a gabled roof. Roof deteriorating.
- D. Saloon: ca. 1913-14, log cabin with a small porch facing east and a gabled roof with a second (ca. 1960) roof covering it. In poor condition.
- E. Earl Herst Cabin: ca. 1913-14, log cabin, gabled roof. In fair condition.
- F. Historic Post Office: ca. 1913-14, log cabin, 1½ stories high with cold cellar and a gabled roof. Recently refurbished.
- G. Cache: ca. 1913-14, log cabin, one-story high with gabled roof. Recently refurbished.
- H. Blacksmith's Shop: ca. 1913-14, log cabin, one-story high with gabled roof. In poor and deteriorating condition.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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First N.P. Nelson Cabin: ca. 1913-14, log structure with three connecting rooms and a gabled roof.

Sidney "Too Much" Johnson Cabin: ca. 1913-14, log structure with gabled roof, cold cellar, and storm porch. In fair condition.

Lou Anderton Barn and Corral: Date unknown, log structure. Vacant.

Second N.P. Nelson Residence: ca. 1930, log structure with gabled roof and a cold cellar. Recently refurbished.

Log Shed. Date unknown.

Old Cache: ca. 1913-14, log structure, one-story, gabled roof. In fair condition.

Mercantile, now Wrangell R ranch cookhouse: ca. 1913-14, log structure, gable roof and porch. Concrete foundation and cellar. Refurbished.

Storage Shed. Date unknown.

Garage. Date unknown.

Mail Cabin. Date unknown.

Log Residence: Date unknown.

Billy James Residence Cabin: ca. 1913-14, log structure with a gabled roof. Good condition.

ditionally, four Native grave houses stand on ridge northwest of town. The site of Native village is below (south) the ridge (all outside historic district).

N-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

Cabin under construction (n.d., recent).

Smokehouse (n.d., recent).

Meat cache (n.d., recent).

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- X. Shower and laundry (n.d., recent)
- Y. Sawmill (n.d., recent). Machinery from ca. 1940, rough cut, sawmill. Powered by Willy's jeep motor.
- Z. Bunkhouse (n.d., recent).



## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1800-1899	COMMERCE	X EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	X TRANSPORTATION	
1900	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		INVENTION		Craftmanship	

SPECIFIC DATES 1913-1934 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Various

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The cluster of 20 log cabins in the Chisana historic district stand as the best reminder of the log communities of gold rush Alaska. The "Shushana" stampede of 1913 typified the small scale gold rushes prevalent during Alaska's gold rush era. The resultant log community of Chisana grew to a reported 400 log cabins, and at that time claimed the largest log cabin community in Alaska if not in North America (according to at least one over zealous gold rush editor). Chisana was like most gold rush camps that grew and prospered for a season or two then declined to a meager existence or abandonment. A surprising number of the remaining log cabins are associated with the characters of gold rush boom towns: prospector, dog musher, merchant, saloon man, and the keepers of law and order.

### History

During May 1913, Billy James, his wife, Matilda Wales, and Nels P. "North Pole" Nelson discovered placer gold in Bonanza Creek. Nelson traveled to Dawson for grub and sparked the rush. An estimated 2,000 headed for the diggings that summer. A fleet of small steamboats left Dawson and Fairbanks and ran up the Tanana and White Rivers to near the strike; White Pass and Yukon route officials promoted a cross country route for stampedeers from the Yukon Territory via Whitehorse; but the eventual dominant route was from Shushana Junction (now McCarthy) on the Copper River and Northwestern Railway across the Wrangell Mountains by trail some 80 miles to the diggings via the Scolai Pass or Nizina-Chisana Glaciers, two of the most rugged routes ever crossed by a gold stampede.

The stampedeers staked the creeks for 25 miles around Gold Hill, while merchants platted three townsites. Chisana townsite (also called Chathanda City and Johnson City) became the dominant community after a miners' meeting moved the U.S. Commissioner's and recorder's office and post office to the new town in September 1913. Log cabins went up quickly during the fall and winter. The growth of Chisana was as much a result of the mining decline of Nome, Fairbanks, and Dawson as the belief that the new gold fields would be permanent and extensive. Only the tributaries of Glacier and Bonanza Creeks, however, proved productive. The population quickly dropped and by 1920 the census taker found only 148 residents in the vicinity. In 1939 the post office closed.

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Of the reported 400 cabins of 1913-14, only a handful remain. Fortunately some of these are associated with prominent gold rush participants. North Pole Nelson, one of the discoverers, went on a fling "outside," squandered his gold, and came back to spend a half century looking for another strike. Two of his cabins stand in Chisana--one built ca. 1913-14, the other in the 1930s. His ashes were buried in 1965 by local miners on top of King Mountain nearby. Nelson's partner, Billy James and James' wife, Matilda Wales, also lost their money and lived in a cabin adjacent to North Pole's. The partners, however, spent most of their time in suits over mining ground or Chisana property. James, a veteran of the Klondike and a half dozen other gold rushers died in 1956, 20 years after Matilda.

On First Avenue is the cabin of Sidney "Too Much" Johnson, the dog sled freight and express musher who carried goods and 200 pounds of mail from the railroad 73 miles over frozen rivers, the Nizina and Chisana Glaciers, up the Whiskey Hill grade, and down into Chisana. Johnson received his nickname from his penchant to unload freight on the glacier when the weight got to be "too much." Nelson, James, and Johnson, symbolize Alaska, its sourdough miner and its musher; Matilda represents the little recognized woman's role in Alaska history.

Other structures dating from the rush include typical gold rush businesses: post office, blacksmith shop, saloon, and mercantile. These were part of Chisana's business district: a row of mercantiles, restaurants, barbers, harness, tin and assay shops, saloons, and other mining camp enterprises on "First Avenue." Fires and flooding have taken most of these structures, but the semblance of a street can be seen from the old post office to the present Wrangell R ranch cookhouse (historic mercantile).

Law and order was present early in Chisana and physical reminders are still present in the U.S. Commissioner's buildings. The White River district commissioner rushed to the diggings with the stampedeers, but lost his job when the office was renamed Chisana. Chisana's first commissioner was Anthony J. Dimond, a miner turned lawyer. Tony Dimond established the presence of law and order, with the help of veteran Deputy U.S. Marshall Frank H. "Al" Hoffman. A stampeder from Nome, Anthony McGettigan, became Dimond's assistant and recorder.

During the winter of 1913-14, a two-story "federal building" (no longer standing) was constructed, two jails built (one for men, the other for women) and log residences moved into. Dimond left with the "bust" in the summer of 1914. He later became prominent in politics as Alaska's sole delegate to Congress (1933-1944). Hoffman and



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McGettigan remained. Following two short term appointees, McGettigan became commissioner. He served the community for 25 years (1914-39) as recorder or commissioner, or postmaster (Chisana's last) and sometimes miner. Three structures associated with law and order remain--the later U.S. Commissioner's Court (which may have been Deputy Marshall Hoffman's residence), U.S. Commissioner's residence (probably McGettigan's), and women's jail. Wooden details on the Commissioner's buildings and the women's jail show outstanding log craftsmanship, from hand carved wooden door knobs and hinges to decorative diamond-shaped, wood details around window trim. Dimond's association with the structures has yet to be determined. Unfortunately, the early Chisana records were destroyed by fire. Thus building histories can only be pieced together from period newspapers and the reminiscences of old timers.

A Native village was adjacent to the town (no structures remain). Four Native graves with their Russian Orthodox crosses and small grave houses stand on a rise overlooking the town. The vacant townsite area includes historical archeology potential.

With the construction of the airstrip ca. 1930, new buildings were built at the town's eastern end. An airstrip extension in 1956 and the introduction of fly-in hunting and guide services, brought about preservation of buildings through use. Isolation has saved Chisana from modern intrusions. A walk through the cluster of log structures gives one the sense of scale and ambience of a typical Alaskan gold mining camp's first season of growth.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Newspapers, 1913-1915; Chitina Leader, Cordova Daily Alaskan, Fairbanks Weekly Times, Dawson Daily News, Skagway Alaskan.

Oral interviews: Neil Finnesand, stampede participant, August 1983; Ivan Thorall, long-time resident, July 1982, June 1983; Terry Overly, long-time resident, June 1983; Ray McNutt, long-time resident, July 1982, June 1983.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 30

UTM REFERENCES

A N W 44 5 20 0 6 8 8 1 8 5 0  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
C S W 44 5 20 0 6 8 8 1 6 5 0

B N E 44 5 8 0 0 6 8 8 1 8 5 0  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
D S E 44 5 8 0 0 6 8 8 1 6 5 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary commences at a point on Johnson Creek due south of the northeastern corner of airfield, thence due north to a point approximately 1,000 feet, thence 2,500 feet west to a corner point; thence 90° due south 100 feet to a corner point on Johnson Creek, thence 90° back to point of origin.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Robert L. Spude, Regional Historian and Michael Lappen, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Alaska Regional Office, National Park Service

DATE

May 1984

STREET & NUMBER

2525 Gambell Street, Room 107

TELEPHONE

907/271-4238

CITY OR TOWN

Anchorage,

STATE

Alaska

## 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES ☒

NO ☐

NONE ☐

*Timothy A. Smith, Deputy*  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is \_\_\_\_\_ National \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

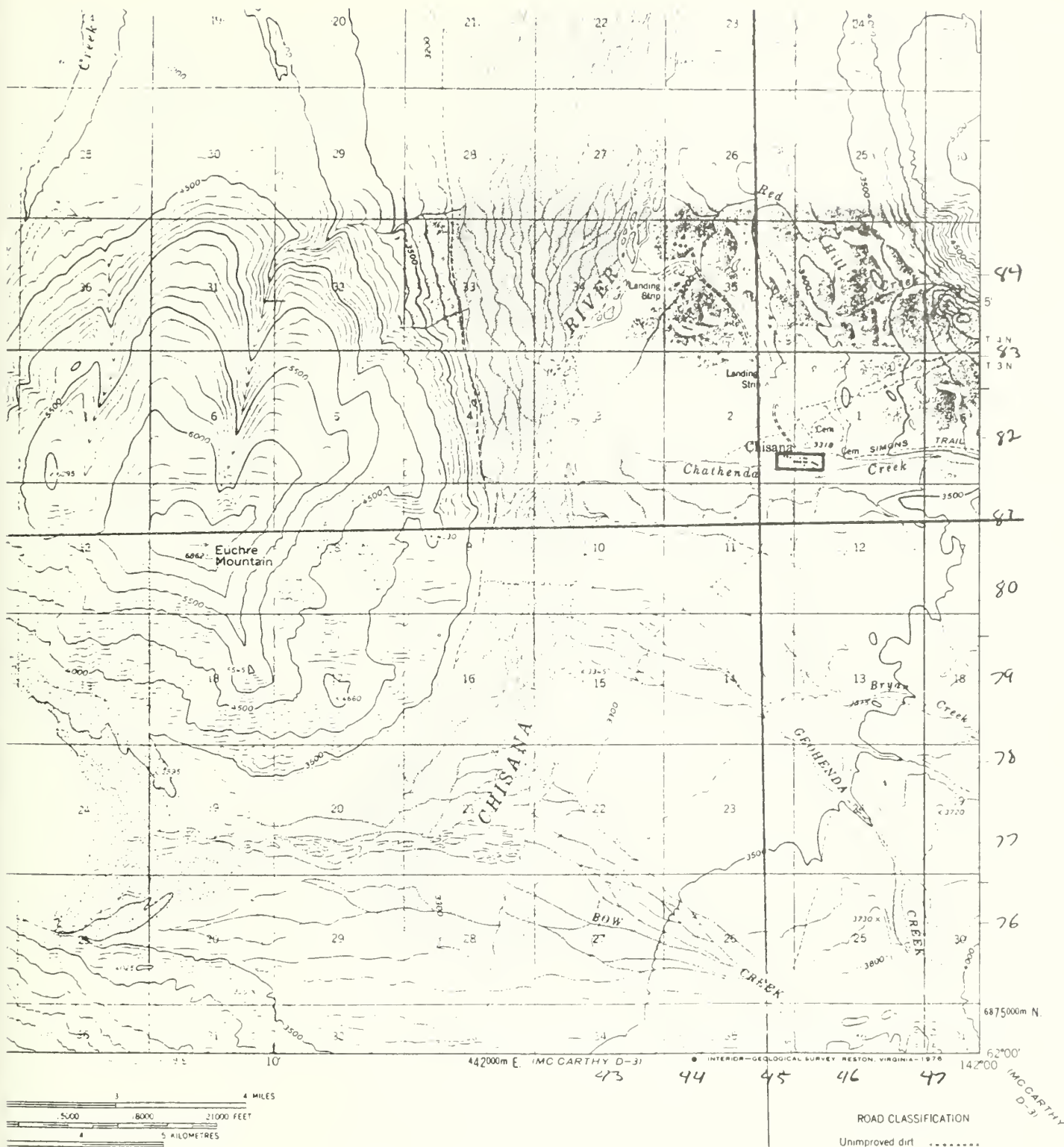
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



1929

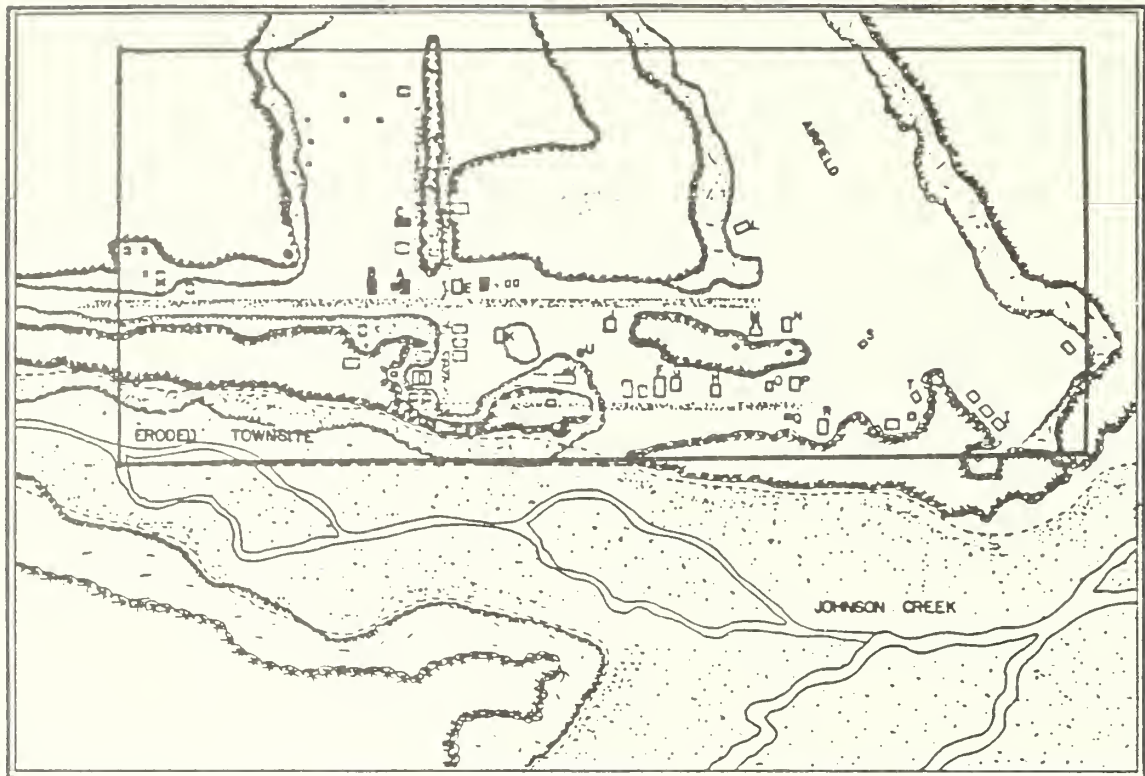
URVEY  
OR RESTON VIRGINIA 22092  
IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



NABESNA (A-3), ALASKA  
Nb200 - W14200/15x30

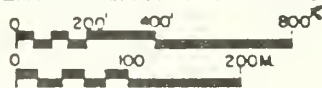
1960  
MINOR REVISIONS 1973





# CHISANA SITE PLAN

SCALE 1" = 200'



## LEGEND

- A. U.S. COMMISSIONER'S COURT
- B. U.S. COMMISSIONER'S RESIDENCE
- C. WOMEN'S JAIL
- D. SALOON
- E. EARL HERST CABIN
- F. OLD POST OFFICE
- G. CACHE
- H. BLACKSMITH'S SHOP
- I. FIRST N.P. NELSON CABIN
- J. TOO MUCH JOHNSON CABIN
- K. LEW'S BARN AND CORRAL

- L. SECOND N.P. NELSON CABIN
- M. RAY McNUTT - UNFINISHED CABIN
- N. RAY McNUTT - STORAGE SHED
- O. RAY McNUTT - OLD CACHE
- P. RAY McNUTT - COOKHOUSE
- Q. RAY McNUTT - STORAGE SHED
- R. RAY McNUTT - GARAGE
- S. RAY McNUTT - MAIL CABIN
- T. RAY McNUTT - RESIDENCE
- U. SMOKEHOUSE
- V. MEAT CACHE

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Fairbanks Weekly News, 1913-1914.  
Nome Daily Nugget, 1913.
- Interviews:
- Neil Finnesand, Chitina, August 1983.
- Elizabeth Hickethier, Chisana, June 1983.
- Ray McNutt, Chisana, July 1982, June 1983.
- Terry Overly, Chisana, June 1983.
- Ivan Thorall, Chisana, July 1982, June 1983.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
FIELD NOTE BOOK

Building WOMEN'S JAIL

Address .....

City or Vicinity CHISANA

County and State .....

Chief of Party:

ROBERT SPUDE

Measured By:

DAVID C. ANDERSON

STEVEN N. PETERSON

Dates Measured 18 JUNE 1983, 17 JULY 1982

HABS Survey No. ....



DAVID C. ANDERSON 18 JUNE 1953

## Women's Jail. (REHABILITATION)

### ROOF:

#### CONDITION:

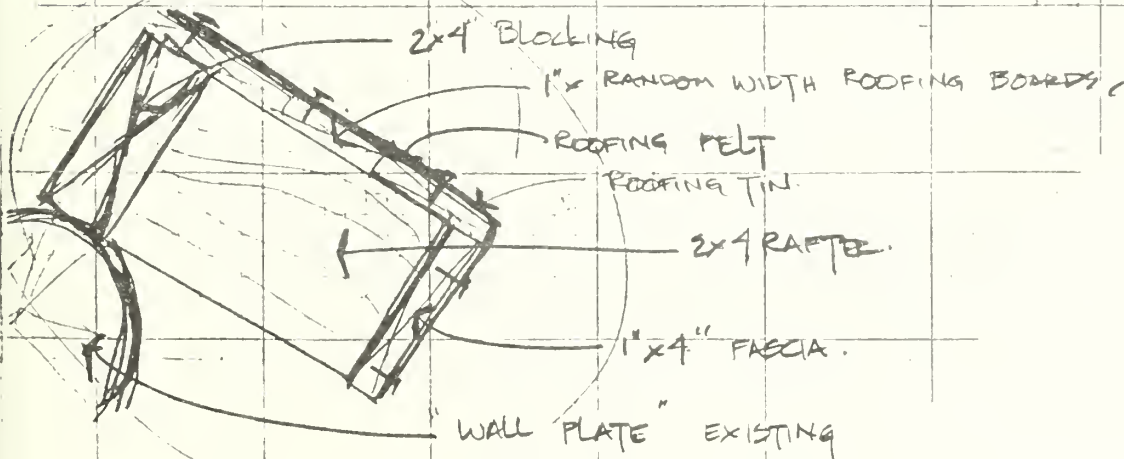
BAD - CONSIDERABLE ROT & DECAY  
ROOFING SLATS DETEIORATED & MISSING IN PLACES.  
LARGE HOLE (4' x 6') ON SOUTH SIDE - CAUSED BY COLLAPSE OF A CEILING MEMBER.  
RIDGE BEAM & WALL PLATES IN GOOD CONDITION  
CEILING MEMBERS GOOD ON UNDERSIDE - ROTTED ON TOP WHERE IN CONTACT WITH SOD INSULATION.  
PORCH CEILING DETEIORATED.

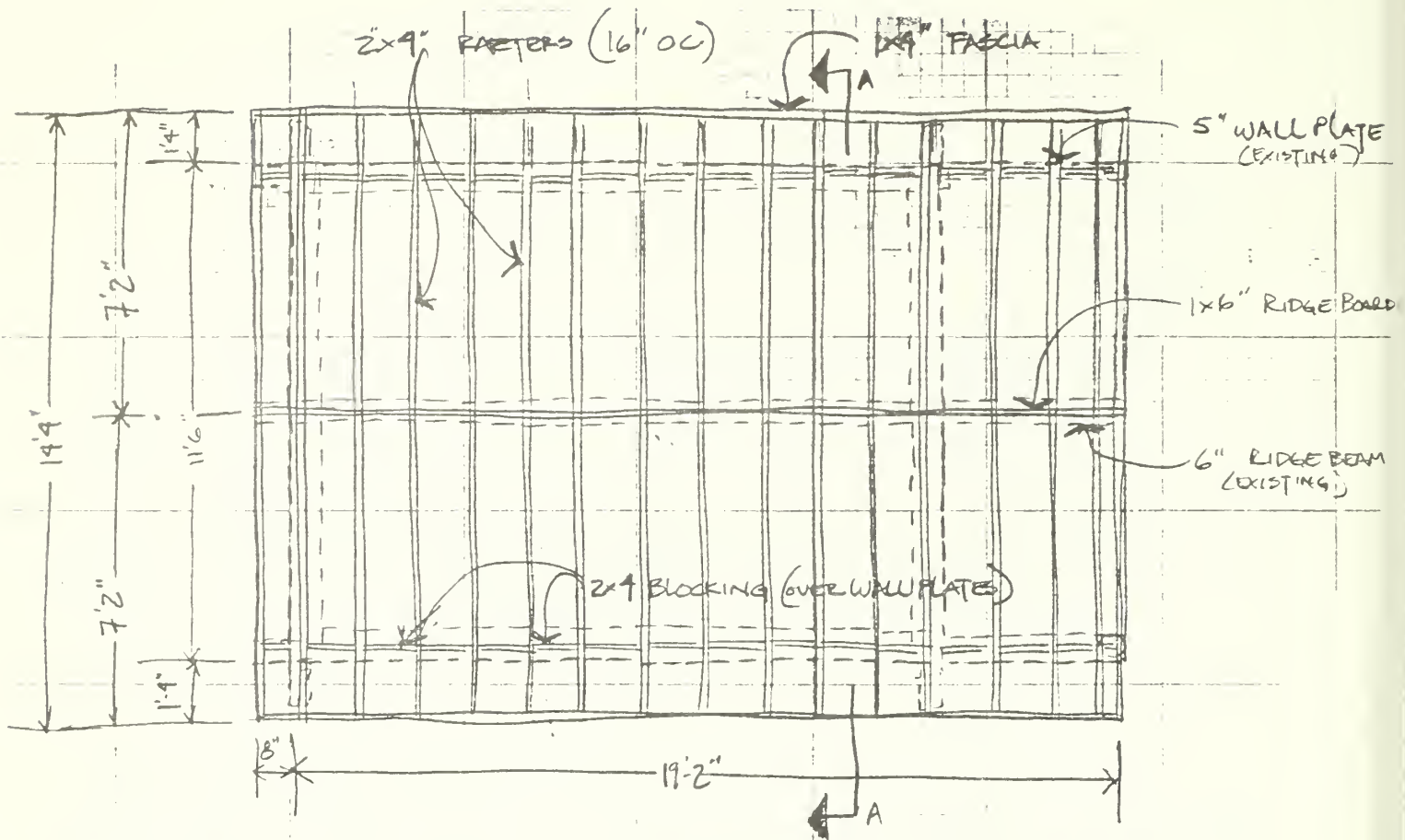
#### TREATMENT:

REMOVE ALL ROOFING MEMBERS EXCEPT WALL PLATES & RIDGE BEAM.  
BUILD NEW ROOF USING 2x4 SPRUCE RAFTERS ON 16" CENTERS (FROM RIDGE BEAM TO 16" <sup>TO 16"</sup> <sup>BEYOND</sup> <sup>WALL PLATE</sup> <sup>ON EACH SIDE</sup>)  
START RAFTERS 8" OUT FROM OUTSIDE OF WEST WALL & PLACE ONE RAFTER ON CENTER OF WALL ON EACH SIDE.  
SET A 1"x6" RIDGE BOARD ON TOP OF RIDGE BEAM & NAIL RAFTERS TO IT.  
CENTER ANOTHER RAFTER OVER THE EAST (FR) WALL OF CABIN.  
PUT BLOCKING BETWEEN ALL RAFTERS CENTERED OVER THE WALL PLATES ON BOTH SIDES.  
PLACE 1"x8" (RANDOM WIDTHS OK - 1"x6" MINIMUM IF POSSIBLE) BOARDS ACROSS RAFTERS.  
CUT ROOFING BOARDS FLUSH W/ OUTSIDE RAFTERS  
TOE NAIL RAFTERS TO WALL PLATE W/ 16d NAILS  
NAIL ROOFING BOARDS 2-3 NAILS PER RAFTER. (IF BOARDS ARE NOT LONG ENOUGH FOR FULL LENGTH OF BUILDING CUT SHORTER BOARDS SO THAT THEY BUTT TOGETHER ON TOP OF A RAFTER. STAGGER THE JOINTS SO THAT THEY DON'T ALL BREAK OVER THE SAME RAFTERS.) USE 12d NAILS FOR THE ROOFING BOARD.  
USE 24 GAUGE TIN SHEETS TO COVER THE ROOF. START SHEETS AT BOTTOM BACK OF ROOF AND WORK TOWARD FRONT THEN GO TOP LAYER WORKING FROM BACK TO FRONT. OVER LAP SAT LEAST 3-4" ALONG SIDES OF SHEETS AND 6-8" AT TOP OF EACH LAYER.  
WHEN BOTH SIDES ARE COVERED PUT A RIDGE PIECE ALONG THE TOP (BACK TO FRONT) OVER LAPPING EACH SIDE AT LEAST 8".  
USE GALVANIZED ROOFING NAILS SPACED EVERY 6" FOR ROOFING TIN.  
ON ENDS AND ALONG THE FASCIA BEND THE TIN DOWN TO COVER TO THE BOTTOM OF THE ROOFING MEMBERS.

#### ADDITIONS:

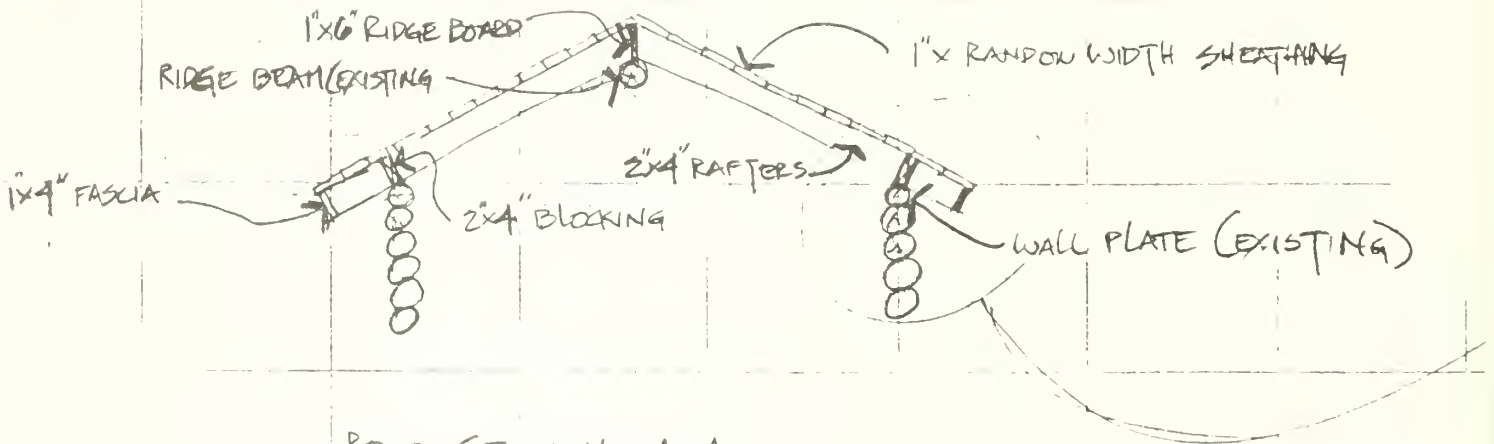
PLACE 1"x4" FASCIA BOARD ALONG CUT ENDS OF RAFTERS (NAIL W/ 3-16d NAILS @ EACH RAFTER).  
30 LB ROOFING FELT UNDER TIN ROOFING.





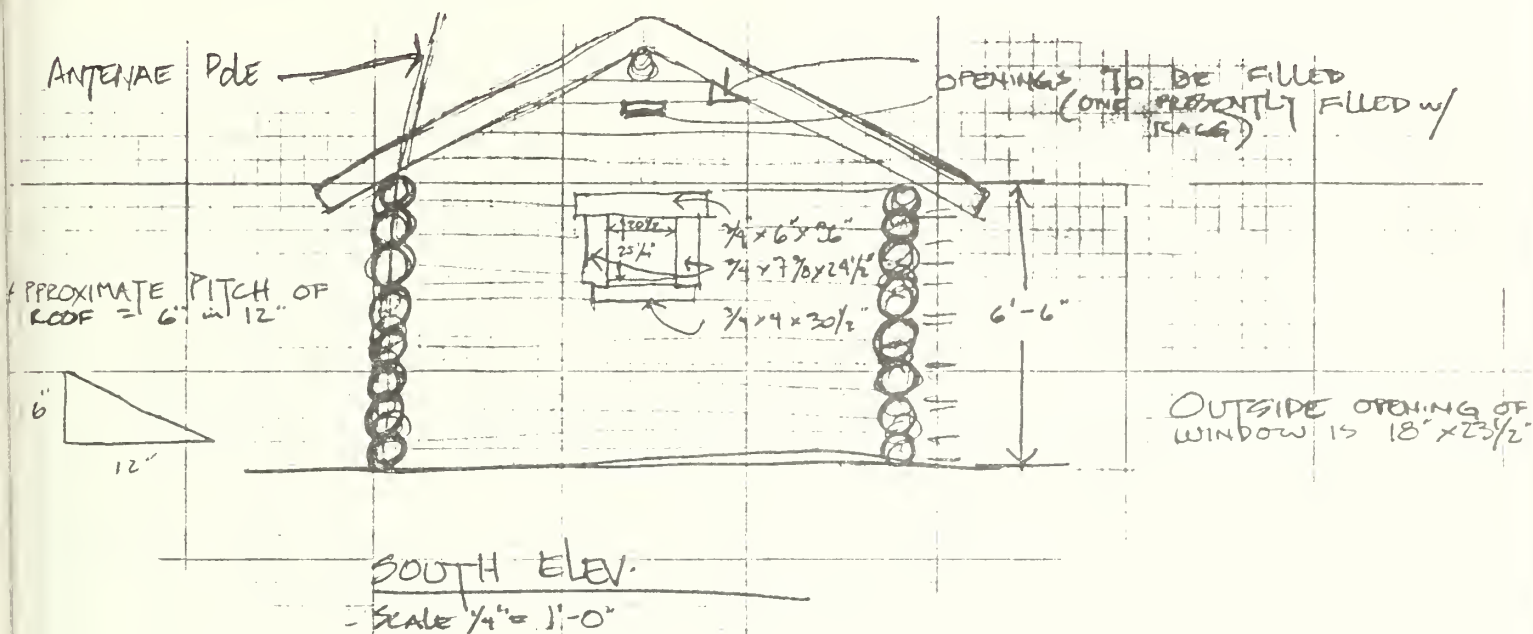
### ROOF PLAN

SCALE:  $\frac{1}{4}" = 1'-0"$



### ROOF SECTION A-A

SCALE:  $\frac{1}{4}" = 1'-0"$



## FLOOR & FOUNDATION

### CONDITION:

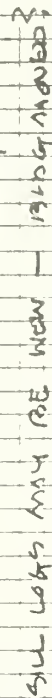
FLOOR IN MAIN CABIN IN GOOD SHAPE - NO HOLES OR HOLLOW SPOTS - REASONABLY LEVEL & FLAT.  
 PORCH FLOOR INADEQUATE. COMPS SOFT AND LOOSE. SUPPORT STRINGER AT FRONT OF PORCH ROTTING UNDER STORAGE AREA.  
 FOUNDATION QUESTIONABLE. DIGGING UNDER SOUTH EAST CORNER YIELDED SOFT SILT, MOSS, ROT & A FEW STONES THE LARGEST OF WHICH WAS 4" DIAMETER.

### TREATMENT:

CORNERS OF THE MAIN CABIN SHOULD BE DUG OUT TO 10-12". LARGE STONES FROM THE RIVER BED SHOULD THEN BE WEDGED FIRMLY IN PLACE UNDER THE STRUCTURE. THE SAME SHOULD BE DONE AT THE FRONT TWO CORNERS OF THE PORCH.

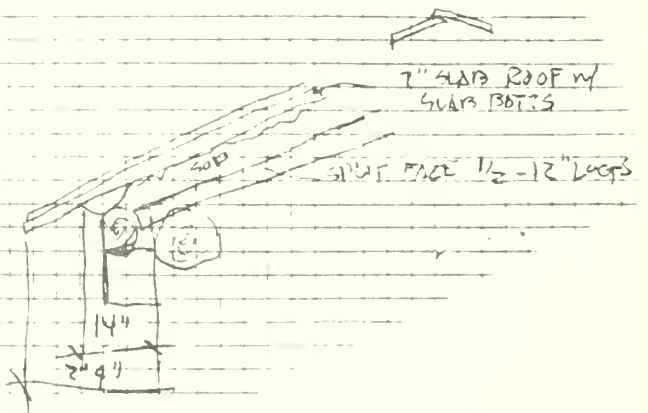
THE EXISTING STRINGER UNDER THE FRONT OF THE PORCH SHOULD BE REMOVED AND REPLACED W/ A NEW 4 1/2 - 5" STRINGER - SET LEVEL W/ THE ONE ALONG THE FRONT OF THE PORCH.  
 REMOVE THE FLOOR BOARDS FROM THE PORCH.  
 ONCE THE NEW STRINGER IS IN PLACE NEW FLOOR BOARDS (1/2" X RANDOM WIDTH) SHOULD BE SET IN PLACE USING 12D GRINDING NAILS.

NOV 17, 1962 S. PEDERSON



9" LOGS AVE. (e 8" TO 13")

VERIFY IF SD ON TOP  
OF NABS OR BETWEEN?  
ON 82





## WALLS

### SOUTH

#### CONDITION:

GOOD - SOUND LOGS. ADEQUATE ENDS  
PORCH ADDITION. LOOSE BOARDS. INADEQUATE BACKING.  
ROOF SUPPORT @ SOUTHEAST CORNER ADEQUATE.  
WINDOW CASING & TRIM GOOD (SEE "WINDOWS & DOOR")

#### TREATMENT:

RE-CHINK ANY GAPS BETWEEN LOGS w/ MOSS  
NAIL 2"x4" STUD AGAINST LOG WALL BEHIND PORCH. STORAGE ROOM WALL - RE-NAIL  
BOARDS TO THE NEW STUD w/ 12d Galvanized Nails  
REPLACE 1/2" x 1/2" BATTENS ON BACK SIDE OF BOARDS (7 TOTAL ON SOUTH  
WALL OF STORAGE ROOM.)

### WEST

#### CONDITION:

STRUCTURALLY SOUND w/ GAPS BETWEEN SOME LOGS.  
TWO HOLES NEAR TOP (ONE DIRECTLY BELOW RIDGE BEAM 6"-9"; ONE UNDER  
EAVE ON SOUTH SIDE OF GABLE.)  
Window Casings & TRIM IN GOOD SHAPE (SEE "WINDOWS & DOOR")

#### TREATMENT:

RECHINK ANY GAPS BETWEEN LOGS w/ MOSS  
FILL TWO HOLES NEAR TOP w/ PIECES OF LOGS CUT & NAILED w/ 12d  
Galvanized Nails & CHINKED w/ MOSS.  
REMOVE ANTENNA POLE.

### NORTH

#### CONDITION:

GOOD - SOUND LOGS w/ GAPS BETWEEN SOME LOGS.  
SUPPORT FOR WALL PLATE @ FRONT OF PORCH LOOSE  
Window TRIM & CASING GOOD. GLAZING INTACT

#### TREATMENT:

RECHINK ANY GAPS BETWEEN LOGS w/ MOSS.  
REPLACE PORCH POST w/ NEW 5" PEELED WHITE SPRUCE LOG. (PUT NOTCH IN TOP  
TO ACCENT WALL PLATE - THE TOE NAIL IN w/ 12d galvanized nails.)

### EAST - w/ PORCH

#### CONDITION

CABIN WALL GOOD w/ SMALL GAPS BETWEEN LOGS.  
DECK FRAME & TRIM GOOD  
PORCH ADDITION WALL OK. ROOF OVER PORCH ADDITION LOOSE: CANVUS ON  
PORCH ADDITION ROOF SHOWING AGE.  
DOOR TO STORAGE WON'T SHUT BECAUSE OF SETTLING OF PORCH.

#### TREATMENT:

RECHINK ANY GAPS w/ MOSS  
~~REMOVE CANVUS FROM TOP OF STORAGE ROOM & REPLACE w/ ROOFING FELT.~~  
REMOVE POST @ NORTH EAST CORNER OF STORAGE & REPLACE w/ LONGER 2"x4" STUPS  
ATTACHED TO RAFTER (AFTER ROOF IS UP.)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
FIELD NOTE BOOK

Building U.S. COMMISSIONER'S COURT

Address.....

City or Vicinity CHISANA, ALASKA

County and State .....

Chief of Party:

ROBERT SPUDE

Measured By:

DAVID C. ANDERSON

STEVEN N. PETERSON

.....

Dates Measured 15, JULY 1982, 21 JUNE 1983

HABS Survey No. ....



US. COMMISSIONER'S COURTCHSANA, WEST

21 JUNE 1983

ROOF

## CONDITION:

POOR - SOD ROOF ROTTING TOPS OF CEILING MEMBERS. (9' x 4" to 6" HALF SPLIT WHITE SPRUCE LOGS AND SPLIT SIDE DOWN) (9' 6" ON WEST SIDE)  
 NEWER ROOF ON TOP W/ FELT PAPER - FAIRLY GOOD SHAPE - NO SHEVDS GROWING - LIGHTLY ASYMMETRICAL W/ RIDGE SHIFTED TO EAST. (in front - Symmetrical in back)  
 STRUCTURAL MEMBERS - RIDGE, FURLINS & PLATE LOGS IN GOOD SHAPE  
 "PLATE" LOGS AT GABLE ENDS MISSING SUPPORT NOTCHES FOR ROOF FASCIA BOARD.  
 (SEE DETAIL #2 BELOW LEFT #1)  
 ROOF IN ADDITION - CHANGE IN SLOPE (TO 3:12 MAX FROM 5:12)  
 1/2" PLYWOOD ON 3" RAFTER LOGS 16" OC  
 PLYWOOD DELAMINATING, SAGGING & WATER STAINED.  
 RAFTERS EXPOSED TO MOISTURE - SIGNS OF DECAY - REST ON NEW ROOF @ TOP OF PITCH - SEE DETAIL #2 BELOW LEFT.

## TREATMENT:

REMOVE ALL ROOFING MEMBERS OF NEWER ROOF AND ADDITION ROOF  
 REMOVE SOD & CEILING MEMBERS OF MAIN CABIN  
 SET NEW PLATE LOG SUPPORTS ON GABLE ENDS W/ NOTCHES FOR FASCIA  
 REPLACE CEILING MEMBERS W/ 4" x 6" SPLIT LOGS (W. SPRUCE) SET SPLIT SIDE DOWN - 9' ON EAST SIDE - 9' 6" ON WEST  
 SET NEW 4" RAFTERS ON ADDITION - 16" OC  
 NAIL 1" x RANDOM WIDTH BOARDS ACROSS ADDITION RAFTERS (AS PER DETAIL #3)  
 INSTALL 18" METAL FLASHING AT JUNCTION  
 TIE ROOF OVER BOTH ROOFS  
 METAL SHEET FLASHING (SMALL SHEETS "DESIGNED TO DULL OR PARTIALLY RUST")  
 PLACE 4" x 5" FASCIA LOG ALONG ENDS OF CEILING MEMBERS - SETTING INTO "PLATE" LOGS - DOWEL/PLG INTO POSITION.

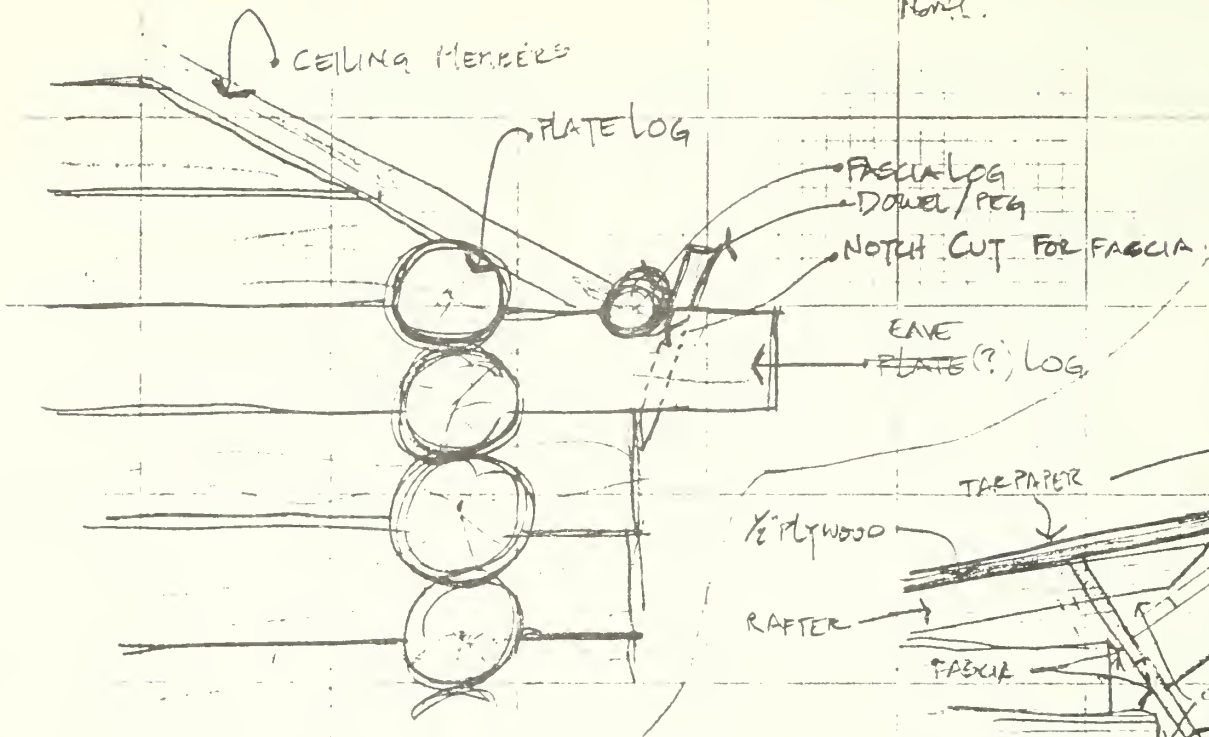
WALLS:SOUTH: CONDITION:

SETTLED & LEANING. MAJOR GAP TO RIGHT OF PORCH DOOR.  
 SILL LOGS DECAYING - PROBABLE CAUSE OF SETTLING  
 PLANK/BOARD COVERING GAP TO LEFT OF PORCH DOOR HEADER & TRIM  
 MAIN CABIN LOGS CUT IN FLAT TO TAKE FLAT TRIM (1 3/4" THICK) ON PORCH SIDE  
 HEAVY FLAT INSIDE W/ 5/8" TRIM.  
 BOTH SOUTH WALLS LEAN NORTH FROM PLATE LOGS UP.

## TREATMENT:

REMOVE BOARDS FROM OUTER LEFT SIDE (INSIDE & OUTSIDE)  
 REMOVE TOP BOARD OF HUDSON BAY SECTION ON RIGHT SIDE - RE-ATTACH PIN OF HUDSON BAY CONNECTION AT ALL POINTS.  
 SET ONE NEW NOTCHED LOGS INTO EACH SIDE OF THE FRONT & TOP WHEN PLATE HAS BEEN REPLACED. (5" DIA. LOGS 3' x 3')  
 (NOTE: SAME PROBLEM & PROCEDURE ON EAST SIDE SILL OF PORCH ALSO (5" x 4")  
 SILL LOG OF SOUTH WALL OF CABIN & ALL (RANDOMLY) LOGS OF PORCH NEED TO BE REPLACED (11" - 9" x 12" & 8" x 12")  
 RE-TRIM DOORS TO MAIN CABIN W/ 1 3/4" x 6" W. SPRUCE (SEE DETAIL #5)  
 (3' 4" ± 5" & 6" LOGS UP ON RIGHT SIDE HAVE TO BE KNOCKED (SLEDGE) BACK INTO CABIN TILL PLUMB BEFORE TRIMMING.  
 RE-ACC TRIM ON FRONT & SOUTH PORCH.

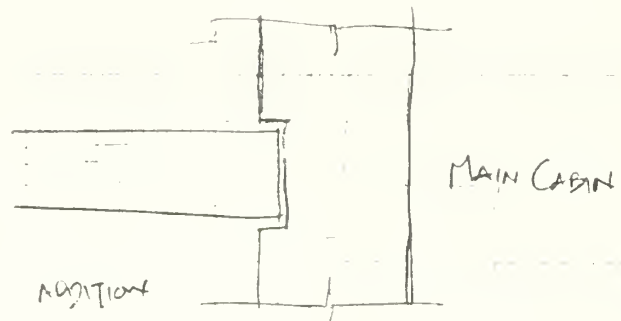
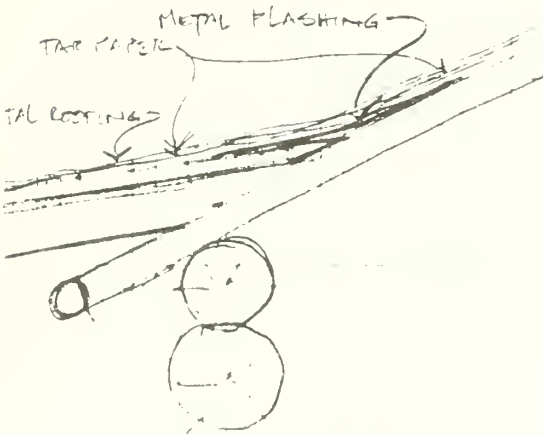
THORN PLAN  
SCALE 1/4" = 1'0"



# #1 DETAIL - GABLE END FASCIA

SCALE: NONE

## #2 DETAIL - ADDITION NOT TO SCALE



### #3 DETAIL NTS.

### #4 PLAN DETAIL NTS.

### #5 DETAIL

## WEST: (w/ Addition) Condition

MAIN CABIN WALL IN GOOD SHAPE - BOTTOM LOG  
DECAYING - THE REST INCLUDING PLATE LOG IN GOOD SHAPE  
PROBLEM @ CONNECTION OF ADDITION: CABIN LOGS GROOVED TO  
ACCEPT LOG WALL OF ADDITION. (SEE DETAIL #1)  
PROBLEM WHERE WALL & ROOF MEET ROOF OF CABIN (DETAIL #2)  
MANY OF THE 4 1/2" - 5" LOGS ON THE ADDITION HAVE TWO KEEL GOING  
90% OF THE WAY THROUGH THE LOGS IN MIDDLE OF THE  
WALL - IN - FIND OUT WHAT  
WINDOWS FROM ADDITION MAY HAVE COME FROM MAIN CABIN WHERE  
DOOR IS NOW - CASING SLIGHTLY SPLAYED AT BOTTOM - NOT  
BUILT FOR THE FRAME  
ADDITION LOGS PEELER INSIDE & OUT  
MAIN CABIN LOGS UNPEELED & HEAVY FLAT INSIDE  
MILDEW FORMING ON TOP LOGS OF SOUTH WALL OF ADDITION

### TREATMENT:

REMOVE & REPLACE BOTTOM TWO LOGS. (12" taper to 8" x 28")  
POSSIBLY REMOVE ADDITION - WILL SEE  
OTHERWISE: REPLACE ALL SILL & SPANDREL LOGS ON ADDITION -  
REPLACE TOP 3 LOGS ON SOUTH WALL OF ADDITION  
\* RECHINKING NECESSARY EVERYWHERE

IF ADDITION IS REMOVED ALL LOGS ON THE MAIN CABIN SHOULD (10 1/2" AVE DIA)  
BE REPLACED W/ A WINDOW (THE ONE FROM THE ADDITION TURNED  
BACK UPRIGHT) SET IN WHERE THE DOOR IS PRESENTLY.

## NORTH: Condition

GOOD: ENDS OF LOGS ON EAST SIDE SHOWING SIGNS OF DETERIORATION  
FROM WEATHERING  
8' AVE: PLATE LOG & NEXT LOG UP NEED TO BE REPLACED: ENDS UNUSABLE  
MOSQUITO NETTING ON TOP VENT - BETTER DETAIL?  
BILL (SPANDREL ?) LOG ROTTEN, SORT.

### TREATMENT:

REPLACE PLATE LOG & ONE ABOVE IT (7 1/2" - 9" TAPER 18'-19' & 17')  
REPLACE SILL LOG & ONE ABOVE IT (12-14" TAPER 17')  
CHECK ENDS W/ D. SNOW

## FLOORING: Condition

POOR TO BAD: SPRING IN MAIN CABIN, ROTTING IN ADDITION & MISSING  
IN PORCH.

Ceiling Logs of Gable ends are full round - not split.

### TREATMENT:

REMOVE ALL FLOOR BOARDS & STRINGERS  
DIG DOWN TO GET AIR CIRCULATION  
FRAME IN NEW FLOOR 2" BELOW THRESHOLDS w/ 2x6's or more  
REPLANK RUNNING N-S w/ 1-1/4" RANDOM WIDTH SPACERS.



→ CONSIDER FOUNDATION WALL SYSTEMS EVERYWHERE!

→ ALL PLATE LOGS SHOULD BE REPLACED & MAY BE PURLINS & LIDGE TO  
REDO THE PEGGING DETAIL - DEPENDS ON AMOUNT OF ACCURACY DESIRED.

8 1/2" - 11" TAPER 16"

SPLIT LOG  
CEILING MEMBER

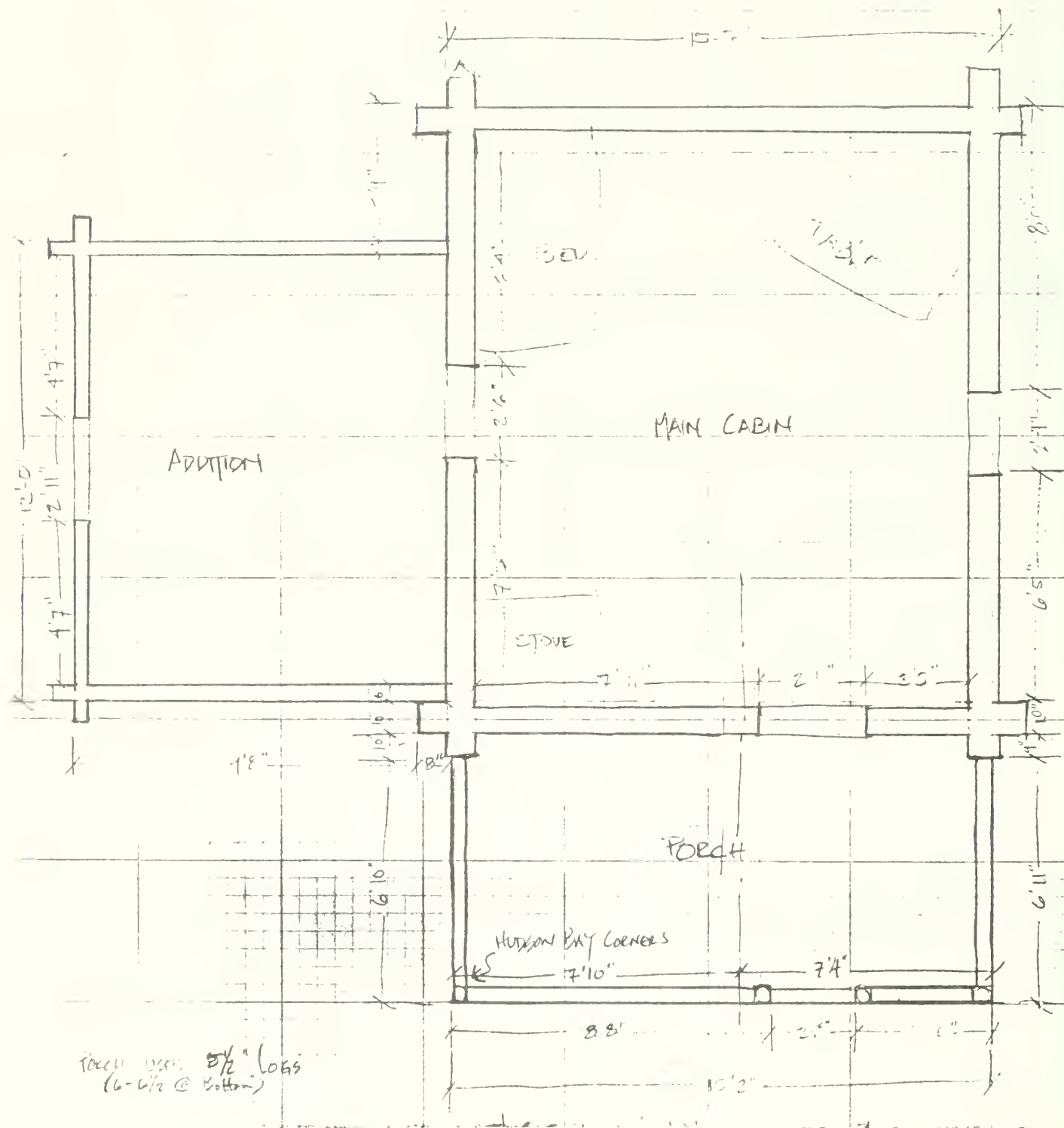


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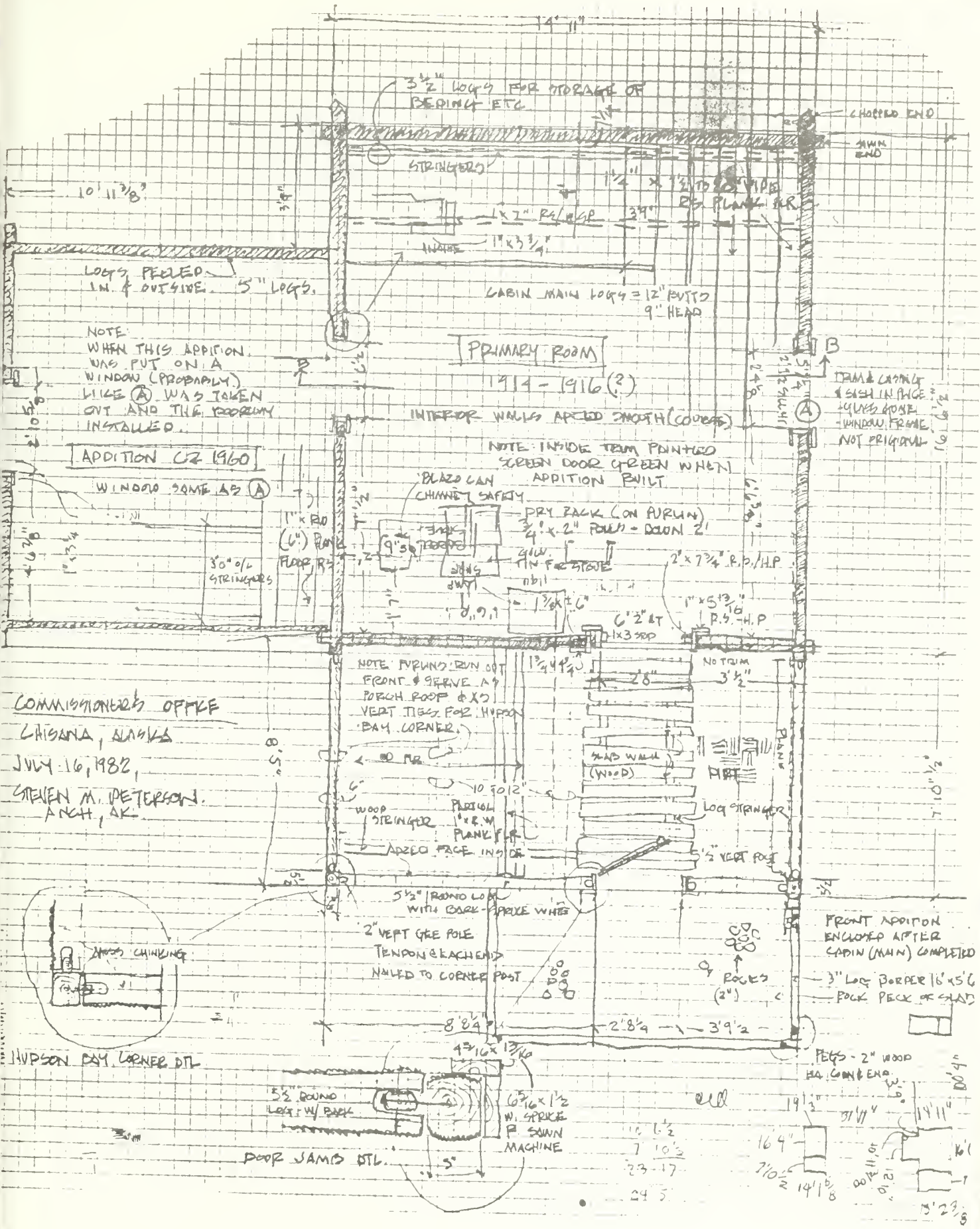
PERLIN (E RIDGE & PLATE LOG)

INSIDE

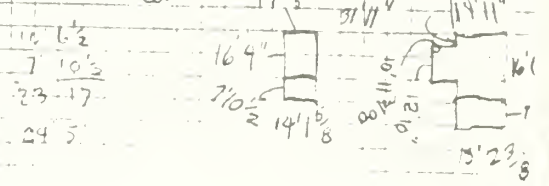
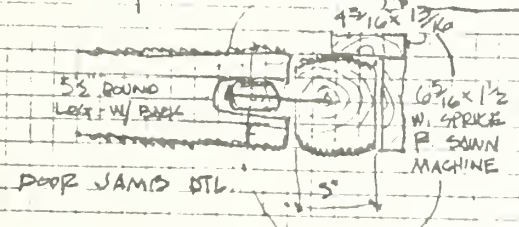
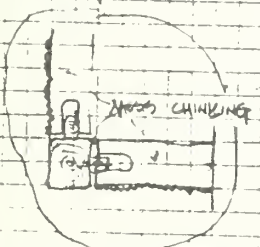
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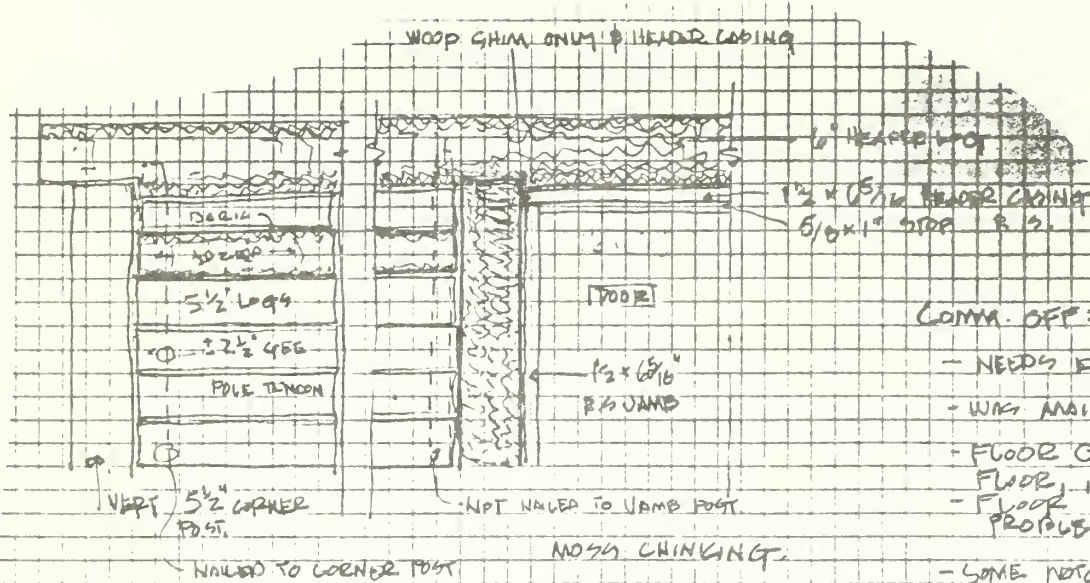






COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE  
 CRIGANA, ALASKA  
 JULY 16, 1982,  
 STEVEN M. PETERSON,  
 ANCH, AK

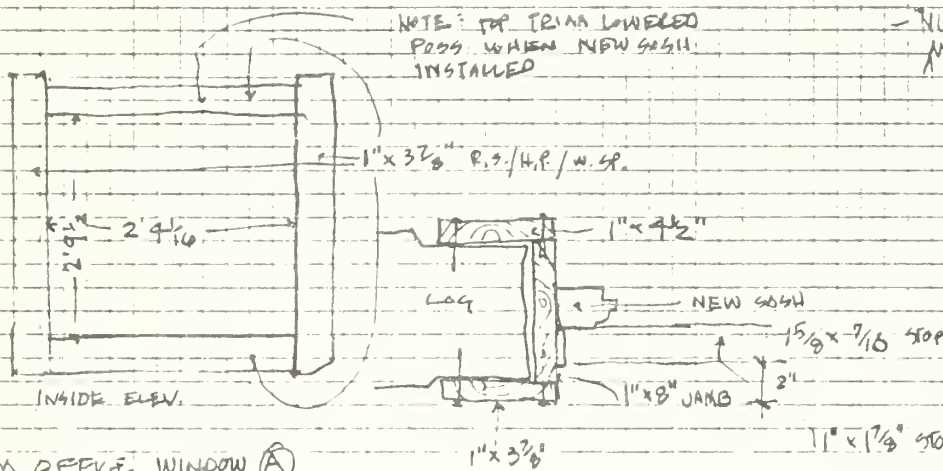




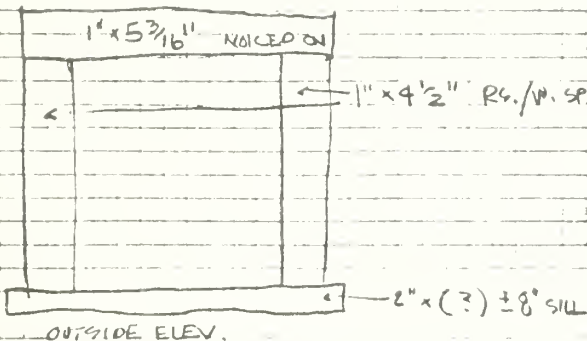
COMM. OFF =

- NEEDS EMERG. ROOF
- WAS MAINTAINED TO 60'S
- FLOOR GOOD, NO EVIDENCE OF FLOOR, WOOD, CEILING COVERINGS
- FLOOR LEVEL = GOOD, SILL LOG PROBABLY NEEDS NEW ONE
- SOME NOTCHES WERE CUT SO THIN THAT LEADS ARE BREAKING OFF
- NEEDS NEW TINT PAPER OR MINERAL PAPER

INSIDE ELEV. OF FRONT - COMMIS. OFFICE.



COMM OFFICE WINDOW (A)



COMM OFFICE WINDOW (A)



NEW ROOF - 1962

4 BREEDS EPPLES

RANDOM W.  
PLANK ROOF

3 1/2 x 3 1/2"

2 1/2 x 4" RAFTERS  
3.5" OC

ROUNDED TOP  
ROOF GLASS

SPLIT FACE POT

QUE POLE END

HAND LOG (NOTCHED ONLY)

SOD ROOF

ROOF BECK : 3 1/2" TO 6"  
LOG HALVES - HAND  
SPLIT.

PURLINS : 8" TIP TO  
12" BUTT - PEEL

SPLIT FACE IN

4' 6"

10' 5"

7' 2"

DEE PLAN.

DOUBLE "X" NOTCHED JTS.

LOG STRINKERS

SILL LOGS

MOSH CHINK

SECTION COMM. TITLE : "B.B."

11' 3"

9"

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Dates Measured 15 JULY, 1982, 19 JUNE 1983

HABS Survey No. ....

# US. COMMISSIONER'S RESIDENCE (CHISANA, WEST) (REHABILITATION)

## ROOF:

### CONDITION:

EAST - BILLOWS & VARIOUS OTHER PLANTS GROWING IN VARIOUS PLACES.

THE PAPER COVERING MISSING. SHEATHING BADLY WEATHERED.

ROOF SYSTEM CONSISTS OF TWO ROOFS:

- ORIGINAL ROOF SPLIT LOGS LAID SPLIT DOWN ON RIDGE BEAM, PURLINS & PLATE LOGS W/ SOD INSULATION ON TOP. EAST ENDS OF LOGS ARE ROTTING & FALLING OFF; UNDER-SIDE COVERED W/ GURLAP - HARD TO SEE, BUT SIGNS OF DECAY & LEAKAGE ON WEST SIDE BEILING.
- NEWER ROOF CONSISTS OF A RAFTER SYSTEM LAID ON TOP OF SOD & LOGS ROOF. A PURLIN RUNS ALONG THE PLATE LOG. RAFTERS & PURLINS SHOWING SIGNS OF ROTTERIORATION & DECAY. BOARDS WERE PLACED ACROSS THE RAFTERS W/ THE PAPER OR ASPHALT OVER THEM. FASCIA BOARDS ARE WAKED, WEATHERED OR MISSING.

ROOF SWAYS BADLY ALONG BOTH SIDES. DUE MOSTLY TO ROTTING PURLINS & GENERAL EMISSION OF THE SOIL/MOSS THAT SUPPORTS TOP SECOND ROOF. BUT ALSO DUE TO THE APPARENT DECAY OF THE PLATE LOGS & THE WAY THE WALL LEANS. RIDGE BEAM & PURLINS APPEAR TO BE IN GOOD SHAPE.

### TREATMENT:

REMOVE NEWER ROOF (SHEATHING, RAFTERS & PURLINS) AND REMOVE SOIL/MOSS INSULATION. (\*THIS MAY REVEAL THAT TOO MUCH DECAY HAS OCCURED IN THE SPLIT LOG RAFTERS TO KEEP THEM, IN WHICH CASE THE CEILING W/ ITS TAN GURLAP COVERING MAY BE LOST. IT WOULD THEN BE NECESSARY TO REMOVE THE GURLAP & THE CEILING LOGS COMPLETELY.)

CUT & FIT 2"x4" RAFTERS @ 16" CENTERS W/ A 1"x8" RIDGE BOARD OVER THE RIDGE BEAM. THE RAFTERS SHOULD EXTEND 16" BEYOND OUTSIDE OF PLATE LOG. ATTACH 1"x4" FASCIA PARALLEL TO EXTENDED ENDS OF RAFTERS AND BUT 2"x4" BLOCKING BETWEEN THE RAFTERS ALONG THE TOP OF THE PLATE LOG. (\* IN ORDER TO REPLACE THE GURLAP IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO PUT A PLYWOOD CEILING IN UNDER THE RAFTERS. IT COULD EITHER BE SET FIRST BY PUTTING THE PLYWOOD ON TOP OF THE RIDGE BEAM, PURLINS & PLATE LOG AND SETTING THE RAFTERS ON TOP OF THE PLYWOOD OR BY CUTTING THE PLYWOOD TO FIT UP BETWEEN THE PURLINS AND NAILING IT TO THE RAFTERS.)

1" X RANDOM WIDTH BOARDS SHOULD THEN BE NAILED ACROSS THE RAFTERS W/ 2" PLY ROOFING FELT ROLED OVER THAT. A TIN (EITHER ALUMINUM SHEETS OR CORRUGATED TIN ROOFING) ROOF NEEDS TO BE PLACED ON TOP OF THAT.

(REFER TO "WOMEN'S JAIL" FOR FURTHER DETAILS.)

ADDITION: REMOVE PLATE LOG ON EAST & WEST WALLS, AND RE-MUMP BOTH WALLS WHERE THEY LEAN IN AT THE MID-POINT (\*NOTE: CROSS BRACING MAY BE REQUIRED UNTIL NEW PLATE LOGS ARE SET IN PLACE.)

PUT NEW PLATE LOGS IN ATTACHING THEM W/ 12" SPIKES (EVERY 2-3 FEET) TO THE REST OF THE WALL.

- ALSO: ROOF SHOULD EXTEND TO THE ENDS OF THE RIDGE PURLINS & PLATE LOGS AT THE FRONT & BACK OF THE BUILDING AND A RAFTER SHOULD BE CENTERED OVER EACH WALL.

## WALLS:

### SOUTH CONDITION:

FAIR TO POOR. LOGS OKAY BUT SIGNS OF 3-4" SLUMP AT CORNERS.

PROBABLY DUE TO INADEQUATE FOUNDATIONS OR A ROTTING SILL LOG.

COULD BE A RESULT OF TOO MUCH PRESSURE FROM THE INCREASED LOAD OF THE EXTENDED OVERHANG OF THE NEWER ROOF.

SLUMP HAS CAUSED THE TRIM TO SET BACK CONSIDERABLY AND HAS CAUSED LARGE

GAPS TO: APPEAR BETWEEN LOGS NEAR THE PLATE LOGS.  
MOST TRIM PIECES APPEAR TO BE IN GOOD SHAPE.

### TREATMENT:

EARTH NEEDS TO BE REMOVED FROM THE CORNER AND LONG LEVEL SHOULD BE SET IN SUCH A WAY AS TO RAISE THE CORNER UP TO ITS PROPER LEVEL. CHINKING SHOULD BE CLEARED OUT FIRST TO MAKE IT EASIER TO CLOSE THE GAPS.

WHEN THE CORNER HAS BEEN RAISED SUFFICIENTLY LARGE FLAT STONES SHOULD BE PLACED UNDER THE CORNER AS A FOUNDATION (CORNER SHOULD BE LIFTED  $\frac{3}{4}$ " - 1" HIGHER THAN ULTIMATELY NECESSARY TO ALLOW FOR SETTLING & PLACEMENT OF THE ROCKS.)

BACK FILL W/ DIRT

RECHINK THE WALL W/ MOSS TO FILL ANY GAPS.

TAP WOODEN DOWELS BACK INTO THE TRIM PIECES UNTIL THEY ARE FIRM - DO NOT SPLIT THE TRIM!

### WEST: CONDITION:

FAIR TO GOOD. MOST LOGS SOUND W/ THE PROBABLE EXCEPTION OF THE PLATE LOG WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE DETEIORATED W/ EXPOSURE TO THE SOB PLUM THE ORIGINAL ROOF.

WINDOW HEAVILY WEATHERED BUT OTHERWISE OKAY. ONE PIECE OF SPLIT LOG TRIM MISSING FROM OUTSIDE. ONE PANE OF GLASS MISSING - THE OTHER IS BROKEN.

LARGE (UP TO 1") GAPS BETWEEN MAIN CABIN LOGS & LOGS FOR FRONT PORCH.

LARGE GAP UNDER WINDOW SILL.

WALL LEANS IN 3-4" INCHES IN THE MIDDLE AT THE TOP - PROBABLY DUE TO THE PLATE LOG.

### TREATMENT:

AFTER REMOVAL OF THE ROOF & THE PLATE LOG THE TOP OF THE WALL SHOULD BE BRACED BACK DOWN TO THE OPPOSITE WALL AND RE-PLUMBED. ONCE THE WALL

ONCE THE WALL IS BACK TO VERTICAL THE NEW PLATE LOG (EXTENDING 2' BEYOND FRONT & BACK) SHOULD BE SET IN PLACE W/ NOTCHES CUT TO FIT ALL 3 INTERSECTING WALLS.

AFTER SPIKING THE PLATE LOG IN PLACE THE BRACING SHOULD REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL THE ROOF IS UP & SHEATHED.

CHINK ALL GAPS BETWEEN LOGS (BOTH VERTICAL & HORIZONTAL GAPS)

USE 4" SPLIT LOG OR 1"X4" BOARD TO COVER GAP UNDER WINDOW

REPLACE GLASS W/ 2 - 20"X16" SINGLE PANES (USE GLAZING COMPOUND & CLIPS)

REPLACE WINDOW TRIM ON RIGHT SIDE W/ SPLIT LOG PIECE

PAINT WINDOW FRAME.

### NORTH: CONDITION:

GOOD.

### TREATMENTS:

RECHINK ANY GAPS.

### EAST: CONDITION:

IDENTICAL TO WEST EXCEPT FOR THE WINDOW (DIFFERENT SIZE)

### TREATMENT:

SAME AS WEST: EXCEPT USE 2 - 14"X20" PANEES OF GLASS.

\*

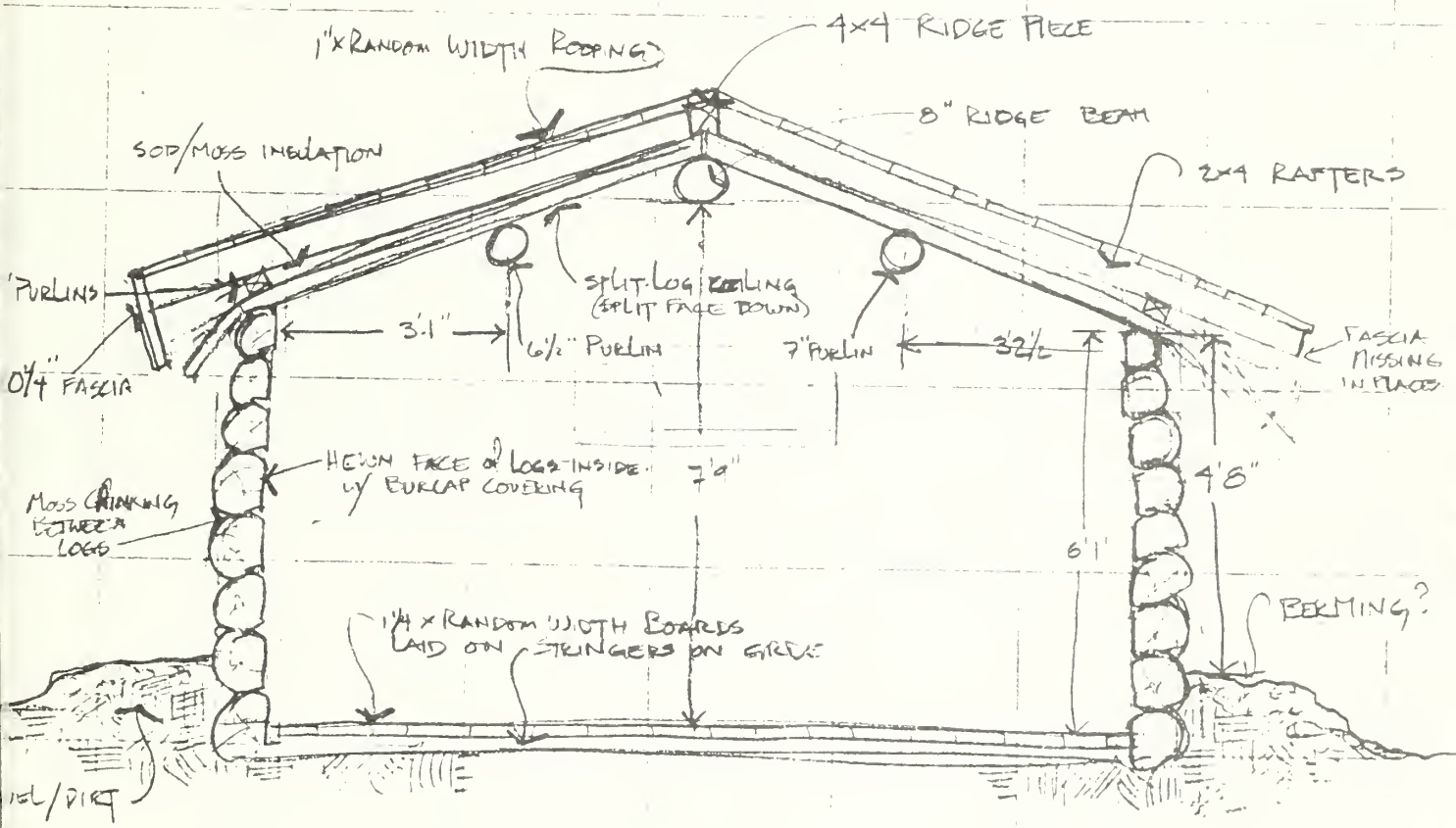
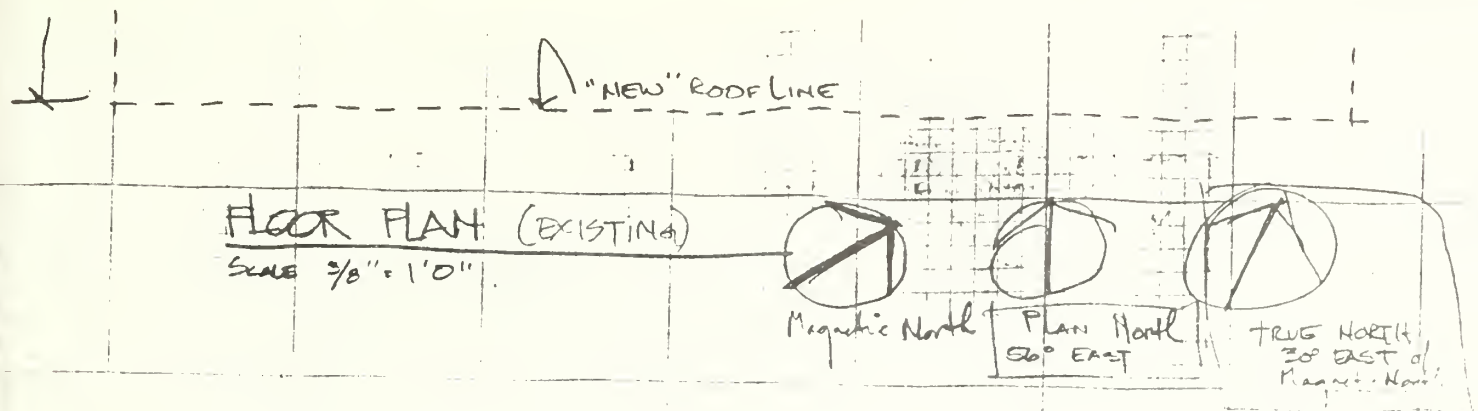
### NOTE:

STRUCTURAL REHABILITATION OF EAST & WEST WALLS MAY REQUIRE THE REMOVAL OF THE WINDOW UNITS, SLOTTING THE ENDS OF THE LOGS FOR A HUDSON-BAY-CORNER-TYPE SUPPORT THAT DOWELS INTO THE TOP & BOTTOM LOGS, LIKEWISE A 2' HOLE COULD BE DRILLED FOR A LONG LAG BOLT OR A 2' SPIKE COULD BE DRIVEN.

SPIKE OR BOLT

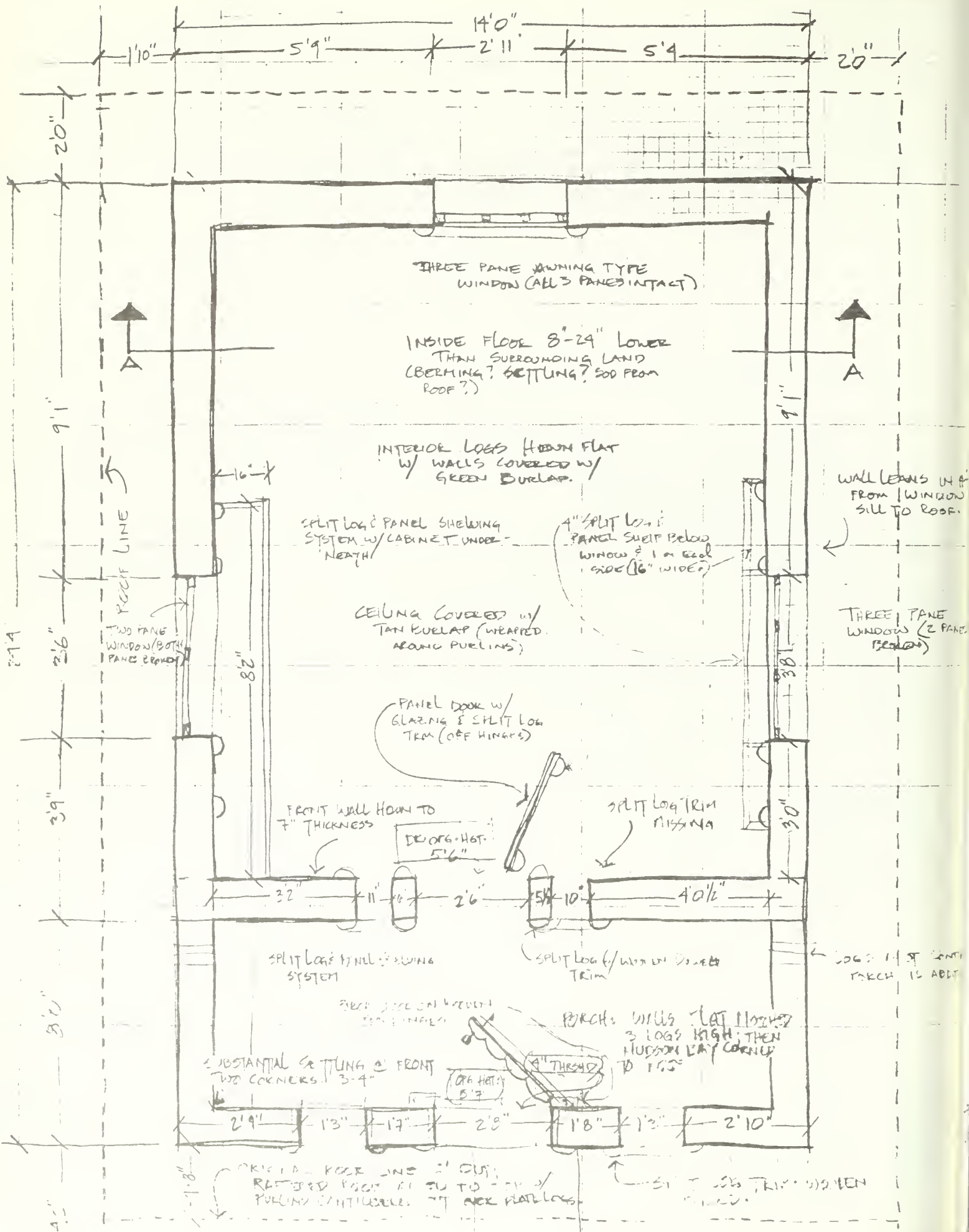




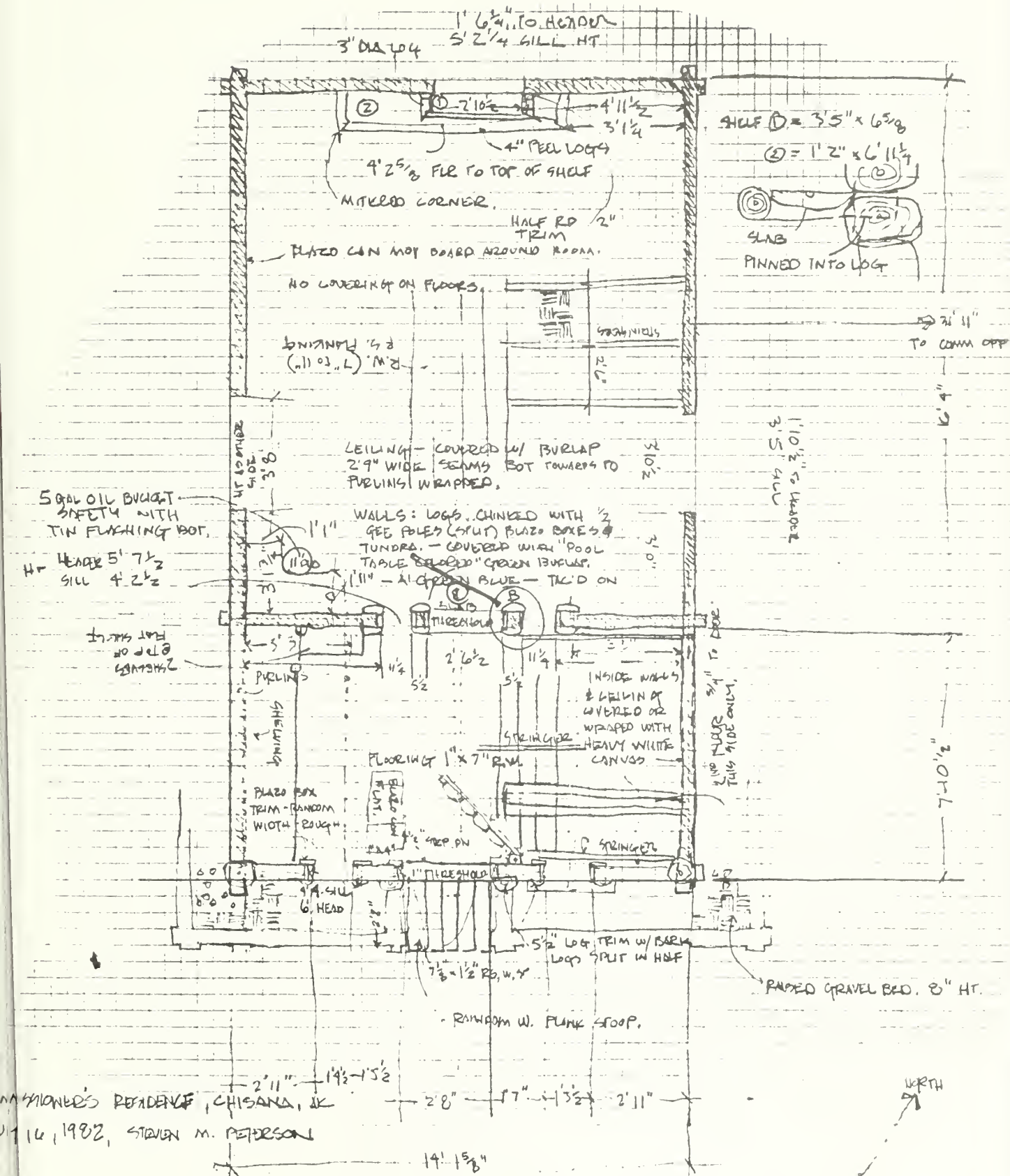


SECTION A-A (EXISTING)

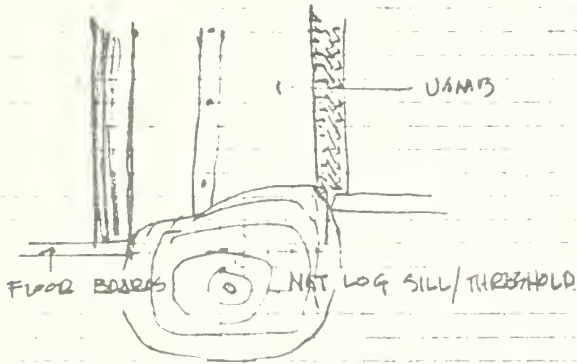
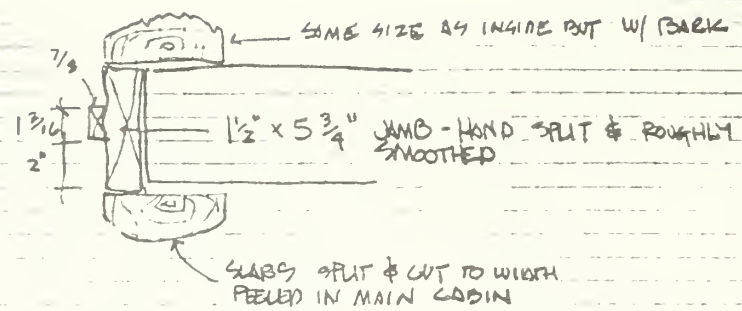
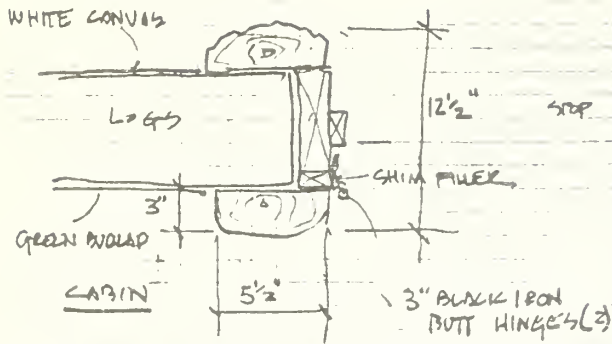
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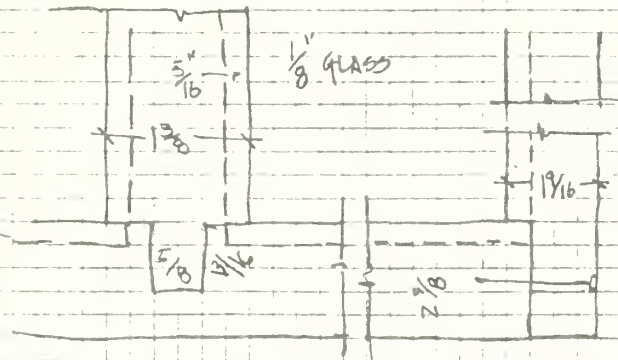
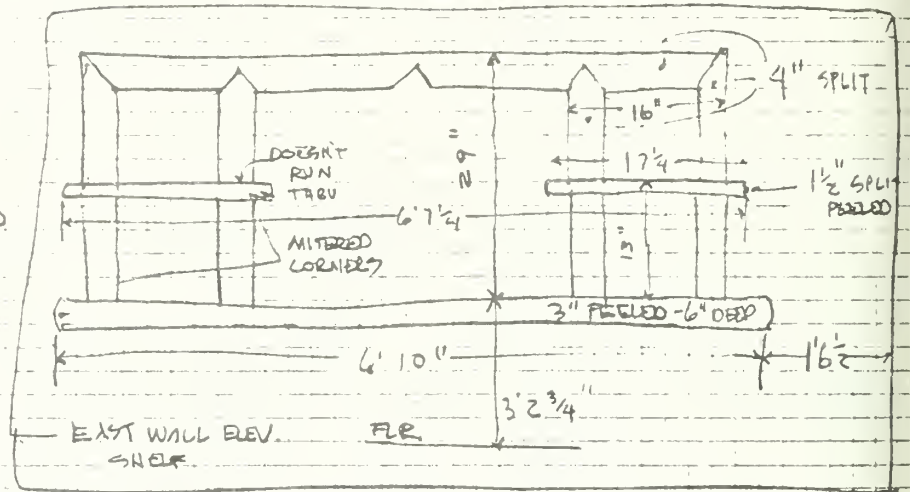
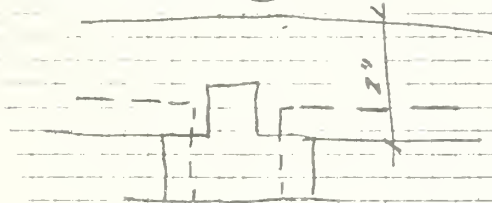




# ENTRY

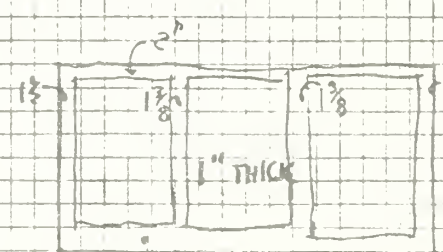
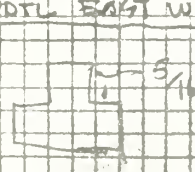


## DOOR JAMB (B)

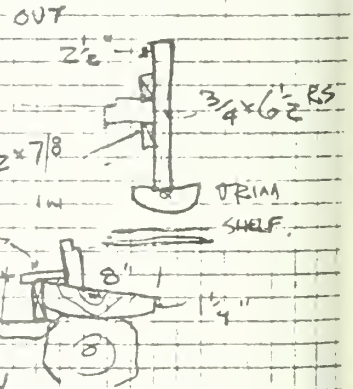


## WINDOW DETL EAST WALL

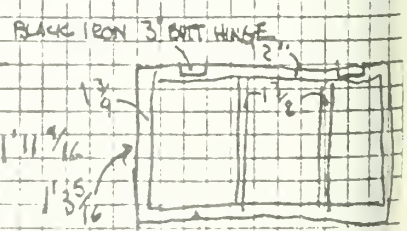
## HAND MADE SILL



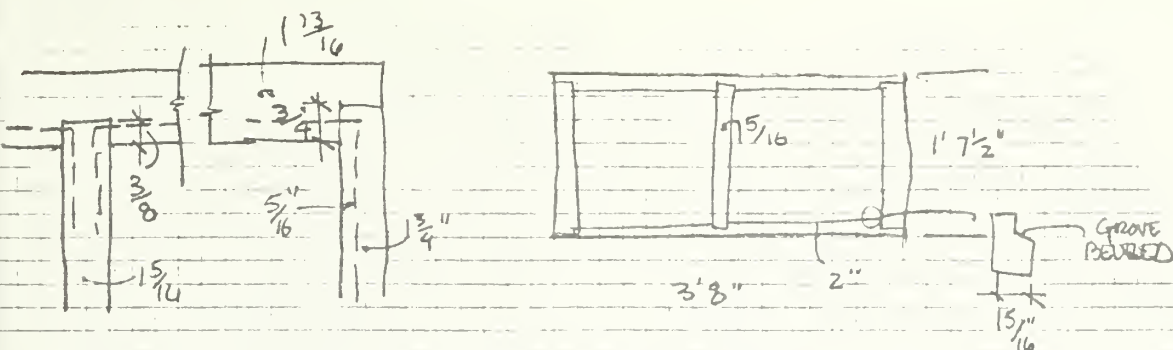
## EAST WALL WINDOW



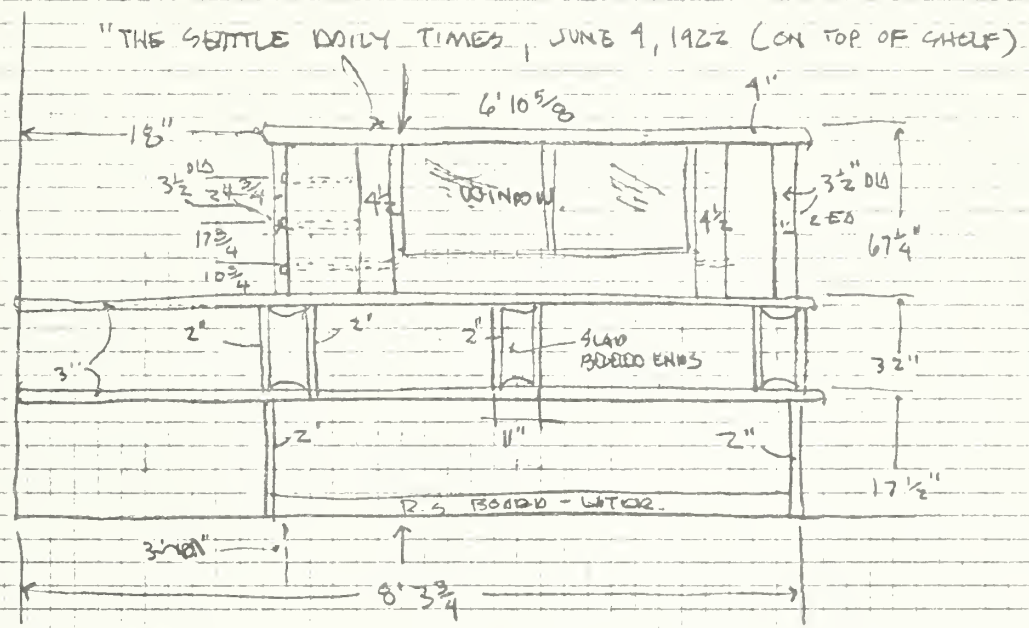
## SILL EAST WINDOW



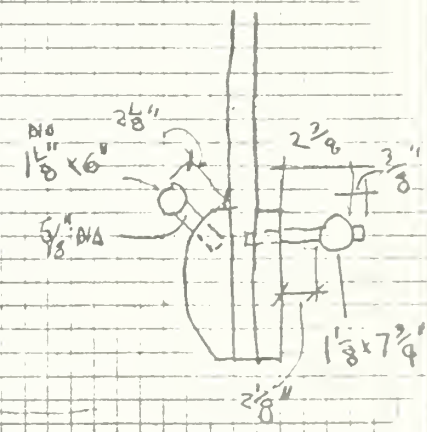
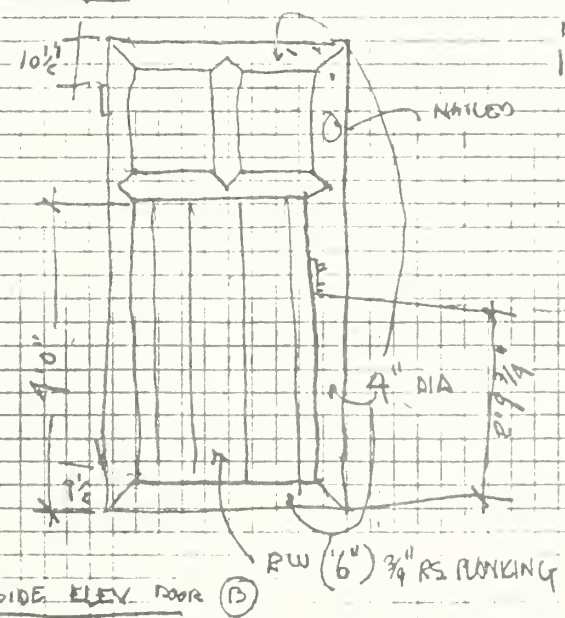
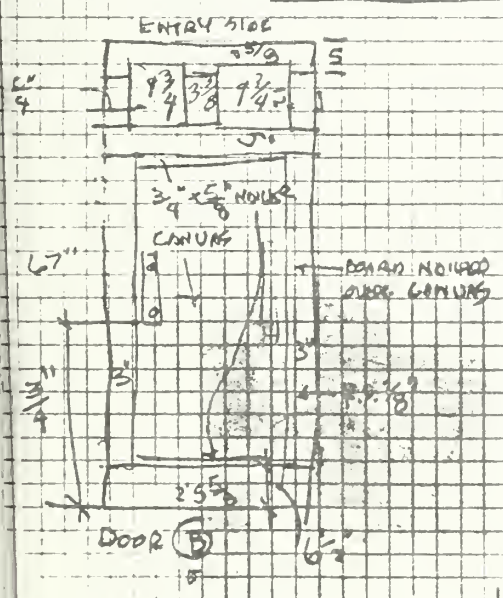
## N. WALL WINDOW



PUT IN AT 5 LATER DATE SIGN IS DIFF.  
 & SIDE JAMBS DIFF. JAMB  
 WEST WINDOW

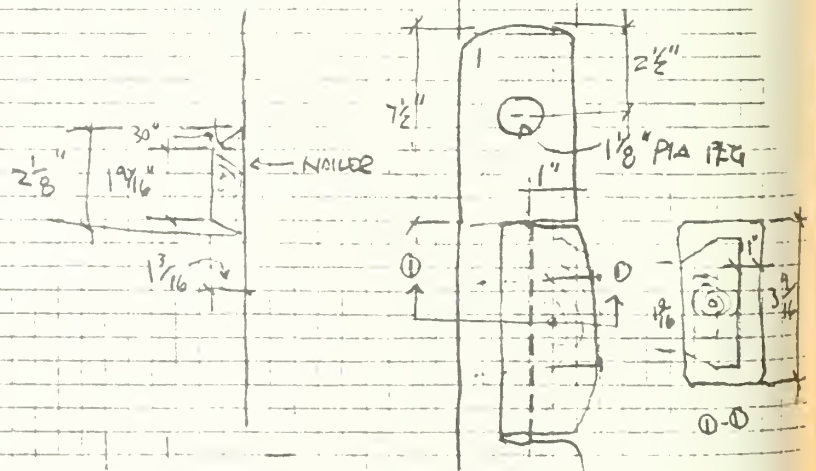
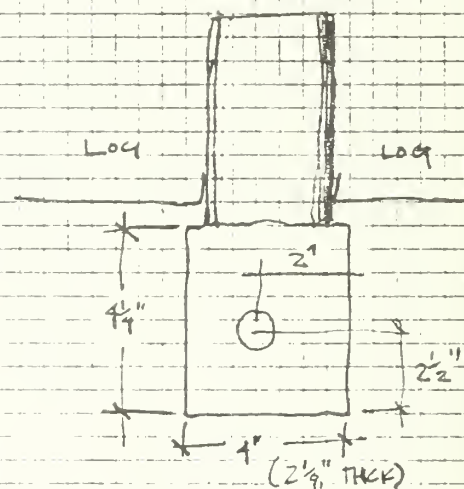
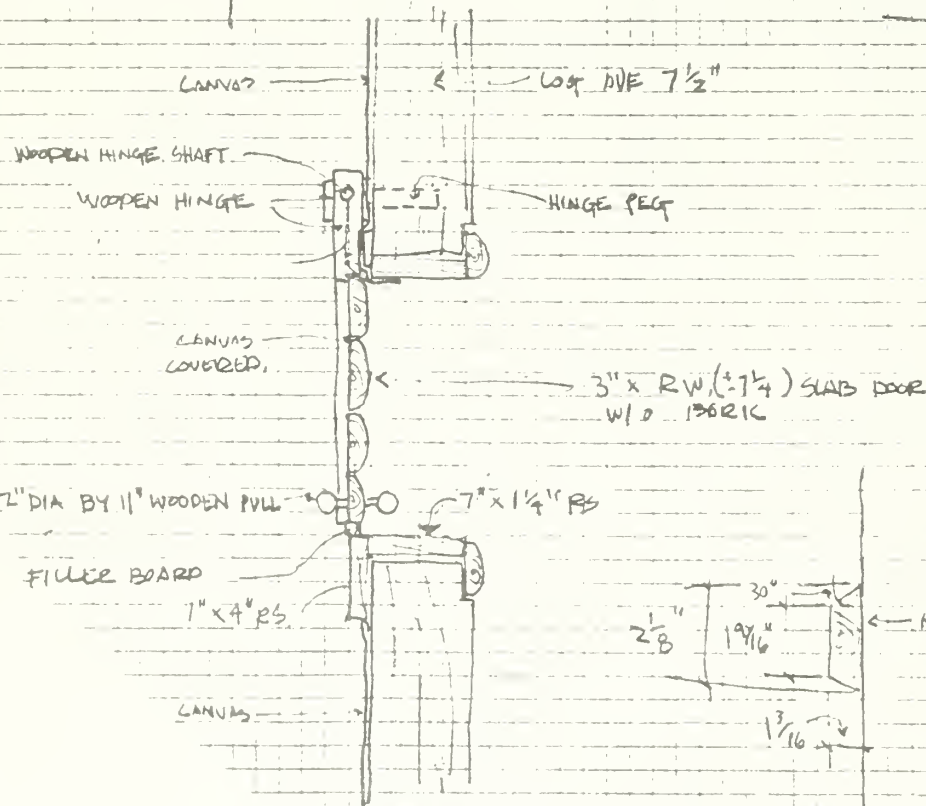
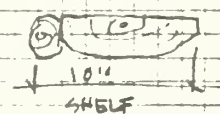
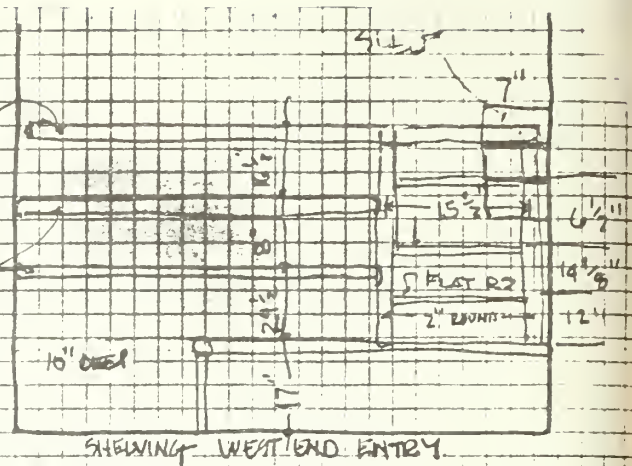
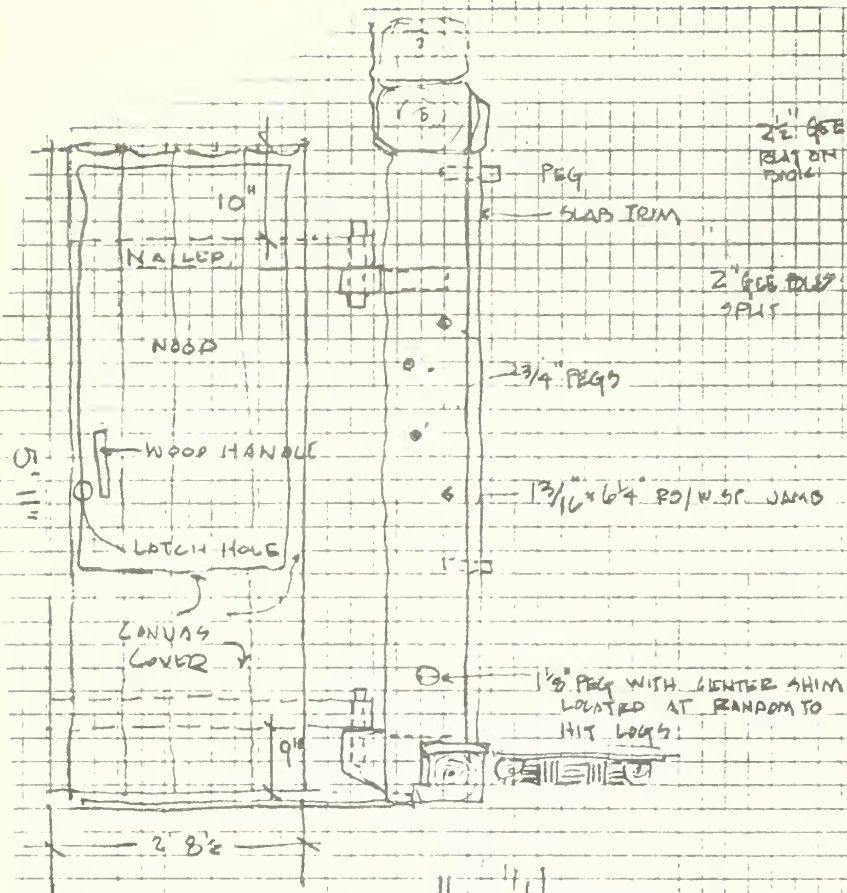


WEST WALL  
 EXTER WALL SHELVING



INSIDE ELEV. DOOR (B)





HINGE PTL.



